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THE JERUSALEM POST

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Treasury says budget cuts \$700m. shy of what's needed

By AVI TEMKIN
Post Economic Reporter
Even if the government approves and carries out all its planned budget cuts for 1984, the slash would be \$700 million less than what is needed to reduce the balance of payments deficit to reasonable proportions, Treasury officials said yesterday.

The officials added that the Finance Ministry is resigned to having to present the Knesset with a request for an additional budget for the current fiscal year.

They added that the sums to be requested are still to be determined. The officials stressed that, excluding cuts in subsidies for basic commodities, the cabinet had approved \$800 million in slashes from the state budget.

The cuts in subsidies amount to

some \$200m., but due to the price freeze it is not clear if the cut was effectively implemented.

To the sums approved for cuts in September the Treasury now wants to add some \$550m. Thus, the overall cut will total some \$1.3b. for this year if all cuts are approved and implemented.

But according to the ministry's estimates, a \$2b. slash is needed to bring down the balance of payments deficit to the proportions which the ministry considers reasonable.

Officials hinted that the \$700m. gap could be filled by cutting subsidies, grants for exporters and other forms of support.

They admitted they were having difficulties implementing the \$800m. cut approved by the cabinet in September.

Major clash over defence budget

Post Economic Reporter
A major clash between the Treasury and the Defence Ministry was evident yesterday as they differed over how to implement the proposed \$150 million cut in the defence budget.

According to government sources, the ministry sees the savings being made with the IDF withdrawal from South Lebanon.

But Treasury officials said they did not include in their calculations any financial savings resulting from a pullout from Lebanon. Instead the Finance Ministry is seeking an additional \$150m. cut from the Defence Ministry, they said.

Defence Ministry and Treasury officials were gearing themselves for a possible confrontation at the cabinet meeting on Sunday which is due to be devoted to cuts in the defence budget.

According to Treasury officials,

the cuts in the defence budget must fulfil two conditions. They must represent a real drop from the Defence Ministry level of operations for 1984, and must include a reduction in personnel.

The officials declined to elaborate on the number of dismissals that are to take place in the standing army.

The only comment they made was that some years ago it was decided to reduce by 6,000 the standing army personnel, but this was prevented by the war in Lebanon.

"We want to go back to that process of personnel reduction" the sources said.

According to unconfirmed reports, the Treasury plans call for the dismissal of some 2,600 from the standing army.

The officials admitted that the Defence Ministry had already slashed some \$80m. this year from the \$300m. cut in its budget

approved by the cabinet in September.

They added that the \$300m. figure was the target sum for one year and therefore the \$80m. already axed could be regarded as the Defence Ministry's share of the approved slash.

According to the officials, the Defence Ministry has also implemented other past decisions to cut its budget to the tune of \$300m. These cuts were approved in 1981 and 1982.

Nevertheless, they insisted that the Defence Ministry has only contributed its fair share to the savings effort and the cuts have been in direct relation to the resources from the budget it commands, the Finance Ministry officials indicated.

But the Defence Ministry has a different version. According to reliable sources, Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin has complained that his

Histadrut furious over Moda'i's rejection of supplement pay Labour sanctions looming Sunday

By ROY ISACOWITZ
Jerusalem Post Reporter
TEL AVIV. — Labour sanctions could close the country's airfields on Sunday and reduce hospital services to their Shabbat level, unless the Treasury reconsiders its refusal to pay a public sector wage supplement, senior Histadrut sources said last night.

Histadrut Secretary-General Yisrael Kessar was reportedly attempting to meet with Prime Minister Shimon Peres late last night, to defuse the threatening crisis. Kessar's demand that the wage supplement be paid immediately was flatly re-

jected by Finance Minister Yoram Moda'i during a meeting between the two yesterday morning.

The heads of the country's public sector unions are due to meet with Histadrut Trade Union Department Chairman Haim Haberfeld tomorrow to decide on retaliatory steps. Yesterday union leaders were already calling for labour sanctions to start on Sunday, and for the package deal to be unilaterally abrogated by the Histadrut.

Among those reportedly ready to take action on Sunday are the teachers, X-ray technicians, technicians and Ports Authority workers.

Technicians Union secretary Zalman Shinkman called on the Histadrut to break off all contact with the Treasury and to renounce the package deal. Similar sentiments were expressed by Teachers Union secretary Yitzhak Welber.

The source of the brewing labour unrest is the public sector work agreement signed last June. The agreement provided for a series of wage supplements, the last of which was due to be paid with October's salaries. Some workers received the 4 per cent supplement, but Moda'i blocked payment to the



Rashid Karamah. (Camera Press)

Syrian vice-president to supervise change

Karamah orders army to take over West Beirut

BEIRUT (AP). — Prime Minister Rashid Karamah said yesterday his government has ordered the Lebanese Army to take over control of West Beirut from Druse and Shi'ite Moslem militias this weekend.

Karamah told reporters that Syrian Vice-President Abdul-Halim Khaddam has decided to come to Beirut on Saturday to help supervise the termination of the nine-month militia reign of Beirut's Moslem sector.

Karamah spoke after the half-Christian, half-Moslem cabinet put

the final touches on the Beirut security plan in a three-hour session chaired by President Amin Jumblatt at his government palace in suburban Ba'abda.

The meeting followed an overnight cease-fire that halted a six-hour artillery battle in the hills overlooking the city. Police said two civilians, including a 2-year-old boy, were killed and 30 others wounded.

The fighting pitted government troops stationed on the bluffs surrounding Jumblatt's palace and Druse militiamen of opposition leader Walid Jumblatt in the Shweifat

hills. Field artillery, mortars, multiple rocket launchers and tank cannons were used, police said.

"We all condemn these security blow-ups. They reflect on the nation's conditions as a whole and on the current negotiations" with Israel at Nakoura, Karamah said.

Karamah said Khaddam telephoned from Damascus to tell Jumblatt during the cabinet meeting that he was coming on Saturday and hopes to bring with him Jumblatt, who has been boycotting the Lebanese cabinet meetings.

Jumblatt serves as transport and

tourism minister.

Lawlessness has sharply increased in West Beirut since Druse and Shi'ite militias took control of that half of the city after driving out the army in the latest civil war round last February.

The West Beirut takeover Sunday will set the stage for the second phase of the security operation, Karamah said.

Under that phase, he said, the army will take over and reopen the coastal highway that links Beirut with Israel's Awaril River defence line in South Lebanon.

Sharon, Time lawyer spar over validity of Kahan commission report

NEW YORK (Reuters). — Ariel Sharon, his voice rising at times to an angry shout, yesterday denounced claims he should have foreseen and prevented the 1982 slaughter of hundreds of Palestinians in Beirut.

"I do not accept it, I do not accept it," the former defence minister said of the conclusions of the Kahan Commission, the official inquiry into the killing of at least 500 people at the Sabra and Shatilla refugee camps.

The Kahan report, which led to Sharon's loss of the defence post last

year, took centre stage on the second day of cross-examination in his \$50 million libel suit against Time magazine.

And it touched off renewed and often sarcastic squabbling between the burly retired general and Time defence lawyer Thomas Barr.

At one point, after Barr objected to Sharon's repeated speech making, Judge Abraham Sofaer leaned toward the witness stand and said: "General, it's his turn now. It's Mr. Barr's turn to be in control."

Your attorney will give you your chance later."

Replied Sharon: "I just didn't feel your honour, that he was in control."

Sharon sued for libel after Time reported in February 1983 that he discussed with Christian Phalangist leaders the need to avenge the assassination of president-elect Bashir Jumblatt. Phalangist forces entered the camps two days after his death.

Time based its report on a secret appendix of the Kahan report which lawyers later admitted reporters had

never seen. Time's efforts to obtain the report — and to elicit details about it from Sharon — have been blocked on the grounds of Israeli national security.

Barr read into the record several sections of the Kahan report, which found Sharon and top Israeli officials indirectly responsible for the massacre.

One section read by Barr said: "It is impossible to justify the minister of defence's disregard of the danger of a massacre." Another said: "No prophetic powers were required to

know that concrete danger of acts of slaughter existed when the Phalangists were moved into the camps," without Israeli supervision.

Sharon repeated several times that he did not mean and does not now accept the conclusions of the report. He admitted, however, that the panel had done good work uncovering the facts. When the report was approved by the cabinet 16-1 last year, Sharon cast the lone dissenting vote.

The hearing was adjourned until Monday.

NEWS BACKGROUND/Brutality and the police — III

'It is not even a beating, but some persuasion'

The news items are sometimes displayed on the front pages of the biggest papers in the country. At other times they are buried near the classified. The stories: "Five officers suspended for beating suspect"...

The driver asked and the policeman hit... "Eilat youths complain of police beating..." "Hospitalized after interrogation..." Individually, the stories are appalling, but put together in a folder, such as the one in the national police

ombudsman's office they are horrifying.

But police brutality is not only committed with fists. It can be much more subtle. An officer in Jerusalem with more than 15 years on the force reports:

"I attended an interrogation once and one of the detectives patted the suspect on the cheek. It wasn't a friendly pat, but it also wasn't harmful. It was sort of like what a spouse

might do when angered by a husband or wife. You could feel the suspect's whole attitude change. He was frightened, feeling that unexpectedly that little pat could turn into a slap, and could turn from a slap into something much worse."

The veteran officer left the interrogation after registering his protest, he said, and reported the matter to his superior. The detective was reprimanded.

In addition to the violence used

mostly — and according to all those in authority, illegitimately — against known criminals, there are the cases of violence against innocents.

Police Minister Haim Bar-Lev spoke to The Jerusalem Post this week. During the interview (which will appear in tomorrow's Weekend Magazine) he discussed such violence against the innocent.

"There are the cases of the policeman on patrol. It's late at night and the men on patrol spot a pair of

young men messing around with a car on a deserted market area street.

"Now the two young men could be innocent. Indeed," Bar-Lev, a former chief of general staff said, "they could be army officers."

"But when asked by the policeman to identify themselves, they answer: 'No!'" the minister continued.

"The patrolmen then suggest that the two men come down to the

Rabin decides to keep college open

Birzeit student killed in riot

By ILAN CHAIM
Jerusalem Post Reporter
Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin decided last night not to close Birzeit University, despite yesterday's violent, pro-Arafat demonstration that left one student dead and five other students and an Israeli Defence Forces' officer wounded.

Shiraf Tibi, 24, died of a gunshot wound in the chest, the IDF spokesman announced. Two of the five wounded students were hit directly by bullets and the other three were

hit by ricochets. The wounded officer, Ramallah region military governor Sgan-Aluf Reuven Caspi, was struck on the head by a demonstrator's rock.

The demonstration began peacefully at about 11 a.m., when some 300 Birzeit students left the old campus, located in the village of Birzeit, and staged a march along surrounding side streets in support of PLO leader Yasser Arafat and the Palestine National Council meeting due to convene today in Amman.

Some of the students began erecting

Arafat in Amman for crucial PNC meeting

AMMAN (Reuters). — PLO leader Yasser Arafat arrived here yesterday for today's scheduled session of the Palestine National Council (PNC) after an unexpected visit to Algiers.

His North African trip led to speculation that the Amman venue of the controversial 17th session of the PNC might be shifted to Algiers or to some other Arab capital to appease dissident Palestinian factions.

But Arafat's military aide Khalil al-Wazir (Abu Jihad) said Arafat went there to brief Algerian President Chadli Benjedid on today's meeting.

Palestinian sources in Damascus said, however, that Benjedid asked Arafat to postpone the session for two months for further discussions between pro- and anti-Arafat factions. He said the PNC could then

meet in Algiers as originally planned, the sources in Damascus said.

In Kuwait, PLO sources said a group of Palestinian notables have offered a compromise calling for convening the PNC in Amman without electing a new executive committee.

The group will ask Arafat to convene a "brief, first meeting" of the PNC in Amman, to be followed by a second meeting two months later.

In the interim, the compromise offered, PLO leaders would endeavour to patch up intra-Palestinian differences and arrange for the second meeting, which would elect a new executive committee.

During the Amman session, they said, the PNC would re-elect the

Terrorist attempts seen coinciding with PNC meet

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter
The defence authorities have information that terrorists attacks are being planned in the administered territories to coincide with the Palestine National Council meeting due to begin in Amman today, administering territories coordinator Shmuel Goren told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee yesterday.

Goren said that authorities had found some 2,000 pamphlets and

booklets on how to make explosives and sabotage materials at Nablus's El-Najah University.

As for Birzeit University, "the most provocative elements [there] are the Israeli singers, dancers and artists who come to express their solidarity with the university," Goren said.

He also said there is no significant unemployment in the territories, and if Arabs from the territories are

The Israel-China connection

By HYAM CORNEY
Jerusalem Post Correspondent
LONDON. — A report in the authoritative Jane's Defence Weekly yesterday, that "clandestine relations between Israel and China have entered a new phase with news of a military deal worth over three thousand million dollars, originated" from private sources in Tel Aviv, a spokesman for Jane's told The Jerusalem Post. He declined to be more precise.

The story bears remarkable similarity to a report published in the London Sunday Times of October 14, and noted in the Post the following day.

As with the Sunday Times, the Jane's version says that the first suggestion of a military deal between

the two countries came when foreign diplomats detected Israeli-made cannon mounted on Chinese tanks in the parade to celebrate the 35th anniversary of the Chinese Communist revolution earlier this year.

Jane's also repeats the Sunday Times report that Israel Aircraft Industries, Israel Military Industries and Tagiran are all involved. It adds that "several Israeli advisers are attached to Chinese army and air force units helping them to absorb the equipment."

Both governments, it adds, denied the links.

When told of the similarity with the Sunday Times story five weeks earlier, a Jane's spokesman merely commented: "Interesting."

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COPENHAGEN	3	7	Clear
FRANKFURT	3	7	Clear
GENEVA	4	9	Clear
HELSINKI	6	12	Clear
HONG KONG	15	21	Clear
JERUSALEM	11	22	Clear
LISSON	13	20	Clear
LONDON	8	14	Clear
MADRID	6	12	Clear
MONTREAL	-18	-14	Clear
NEW YORK	-4	2	Clear
OSLO	6	12	Clear
PARIS	4	9	Clear
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STOCKHOLM	2	7	Clear
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TORONTO	-4	1	Clear
VIENNA	4	9	Clear
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THE WEATHER

Forecast: Partly cloudy until afternoon, when clouds will increase. Rain expected first in north and later in centre of country.

	Yesterday's	Yesterday's	Today's
	Humidity	Min-Max	Min-Max
Jerusalem	51	11-18	17
Golan	—	14-19	—
Nahariya	—	—	—
Safed	53	—16	15
Haifa Port	40	18-25	23
Tiberias	43	—26	—
Nazareth	95	14-23	21
Afula	—	15-26	25
Shomron	45	12-22	20
Tel Aviv	77	19-22	22
B-Q Airport	73	13-23	22
Jericho	41	15-28	27
Gaza	74	14-23	22
Beer Sheva	37	10-24	23
Eilat	32	15-27	27

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

West German Minister of Science and Education Dorothee Wills, called yesterday on Knesset Speaker Shlomo Hillel. Wills visited the Hebrew University of Jerusalem Tuesday night and met with university president Don Patinkin and other university figures and she presented a cheque from her ministry to the university and Jewish National Library.

Prof. Yuval Ne'eman will speak about economic and security policy for "Israel in the Free World" at the Rotary Club meeting at the Tel Aviv Hilton Hotel at 1.15 p.m. today.

Check on R&D deals

The Treasury confirmed last night that it was studying charges by MK Meir Shitrit that the Elscint and Tadiran companies were taking unfair advantage of the Research and Development Investment Law.

Shitrit accused the companies of buying back their shares from the public using tax-rebate money, offering the public a 10 per cent profit. The companies and the purchasers thus cleared substantial profits at the expense of the Finance Ministry, according to Shitrit.

Extradition of terror suspect not sought

Jerusalem Post Reporter
The police have so far refrained from seeking the extradition of Jewish underground suspect Ira Rappaport because of legal problems regarding his U.S. citizenship, police sources said last night.

They said Rappaport's whereabouts in the "five towns" area of Long Island had been known for several months, but because of his U.S. citizenship, extradition was "extremely problematic."

According to reports from New York, confirmed by police sources, Rappaport is living openly, under his own name and with his family, in Long Island. There he regularly speaks out on the Jewish underground.

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Israel Ports Authority
Materials Handling Equipment Division
Dorach Patach Tikva 74
Room 1203
Tel Aviv, Israel
- The forms should be submitted not later than January 25, 1984, to the above-mentioned address.
- Inclusion of any firm's name on this list is subject to the discretion of the Israel Ports Authority.

0715-25-24

HOME NEWS

Bar-Lev lashes leaks, 'incorrect' reporting

By ROBERT ROSENBERG
Jerusalem Post Reporter
Police Minister Haim Bar-Lev last night lashed out at police officers who maliciously leak stories against their colleagues and warned against undue violence against citizens. Bar-Lev spoke for nearly 90 minutes to the senior staff, outlining his views of the force and its role in Israeli society.

Ranging from the influx of hashish from Lebanon to the economic situation, Bar-Lev's speech to the closed session took a tough line on leaks to the media. A source who attended the meeting said that, without raising his voice, Bar-Lev made it clear he would not stand for leaks.

The minister did raise his voice, however, with the reporters after the session, describing many of the stories that have appeared recently as "wrong, incorrect and unbalanced." He said that he told the officers that "the number of times an officer's name appears in the press is not going to have any effect on any promotion decisions."

On the matter of police brutality, Bar-Lev noted that Israeli society is made up of dozens of different ethnic, religious and cultural groups, sharing very few norms of behaviour.

"But I want there to be norms in

the force," Bar-Lev said, explaining that the police must maintain a balance between "preserving law and order and preserving the rights of free citizens."

Bar-Lev explained that the press gave the impression that the police "spend all their time investigating each other for leaks."

He also criticized MK Dov Shilansky for describing the force as "rotten." The police force was not rotten, said the minister. There were pockets of corruption — it was not general — and nothing would be swept under the rug, he promised.

The minister said that a new inspector-general would be appointed "in due time," but that the present incumbent would be inspector-general "until his last day on the job."

He also criticized media reports about Northern District Commander Rahamim Haddad resigning because of alleged white-washing of corruption under his command. There was no evidence of any white-washing, he maintained.

He also denied that Southern District Commander Avraham Turge-man was being investigated. The police were simply looking into conflicting testimony in the Assaf Hefetz case, not "investigating an officer," he said.

Police question Kahane on statements

MK Meir Kahane (Kach) was interrogated by the police yesterday concerning his statements on Jewish terror against Arabs. The officers took testimony from Kahane at his movement's headquarters in Jerusalem.

After the one-hour session, Kahane told reporters that he had informed the police that far from encouraging Jews to take the law into their own hands, he was advising them not to do so.

He explained: "I've been asking Jews to refrain from taking

vengeance on our enemies now, not because I think it is wrong to do it, but because there is no chance to do it without being tried and sentenced to long jail terms."

Kahane added that he had been telling his followers to wait until the people put Kach into power.

Meanwhile, in Tel Aviv yesterday, several thousand young people demonstrated against Kahane and racism. The protesters included members of youth groups from Bnei Akiva to the socialist youth movements (Itim).

Waldman helped plan attack on mayors

Jewish terror defendant Menahem Neuberger told investigators that Knesset Member Rabbi Eliezer Waldman (Tehiya) participated in the planning of the attack on the mayors, a General Security Services agent testified yesterday in the terror trial in Jerusalem District Court.

"Menahem Neuberger said that Rabbi Eliezer Waldman was a positive participant in the planning of the attack on the mayors. He told us about Rabbi Waldman's knowledge and blessing of the act. Neuberger was a brave man until he stood in front of Waldman and then he changed his mind. He said his statements about Rabbi Waldman were

not correct," said the GSS agent known as "Yisrael," who headed the team in Jerusalem that interrogated the terror defendants.

Neuberger is Waldman's son-in-law. Waldman was held for questioning by the police in May but was released.

"Yisrael" also testified that during the interrogation of defendant Yossi Edri, Edri accused the GSS of provocation and of using KGB methods in interrogation.

"Yisrael" told Edri that he had lost an eye and a leg in his work for the GSS, and that he would therefore not allow Edri to call him a provocateur. (Itim).

BIRZEIT STUDENT

(Continued from Page One)
ing stone-barriers across the streets, while others set a number of tires on fire. At that point, an Israeli civilian vehicle, belonging to the Public Works Department, arrived at one of the barricades. Reports are unclear whether the vehicle was stoned by the students; but it turned back and its occupants immediately notified the military authorities.

According to military sources, Caspi quickly arrived, assessed the situation and called for troops. An unspecified number of soldiers. Border Police and police arrived at the barricades, which by that time were blocking all the side streets surrounding the campus.

The troops were met with a hail of stones, one of which hit Caspi in the head, knocking him out. As the stone-throwing continued, some soldiers fired warning shots into the air while others pulled the unconscious Caspi away from the confrontation. Tear-gas was also fired at the demonstrators.

When the students refused to disperse, the order was given to fire at their legs. Tibi, a fifth-year, honours student in mechanical engineering from Khan Yunis, was mortally wounded by a bullet in the chest. A university official said the other wounded students were hit in the chest, neck, arms and feet.

Following the gunfire, the students retreated onto the university campus, which was sealed by the military authorities until early evening. Several students, suspected of inciting the violence, were arrested for questioning.

Birzeit University spokesman Albert Aghazarian last night ques-

tioned the army's use of force to put down the demonstration. "Why use live bullets, when rubber bullets or one tear-gas canister could have done the job?" he asked.

Aghazarian told The Jerusalem Post that the ambulance carrying the dying Tibi was held up by soldiers on the way out of Birzeit. He claimed the soldiers taunted and jostled the ambulance driver for several minutes before letting him through, even though the driver told them he was carrying a dying man. Aghazarian said Tibi was the first Birzeit student killed by the IDF under the Israeli administration.

A number of individuals and organizations yesterday reacted to the incident. MK Ora Namir submitted an urgent motion to the Knesset agenda for a debate on the matter.

The Israeli Committee for Solidarity with Birzeit condemned the killing, saying that "an army that shoots on unarmed students is an army that has lost the battle."

Elsewhere, a petrol bomb was thrown at an Egged bus as it passed the Kalandia refugee camp north of Jerusalem last night. The bomb exploded, but there were no injuries or damage. Security forces searched the area.

A petrol bomb was also thrown in Ramallah at the car of the town's deposed mayor, Karim Khalaf. There were no injuries.

Khalaf is identified with the Abu Musa faction of the PLO, which is pro-Syrian and opposes the convening of the Palestine National Council in Amman.

There has been considerable tension between Abu Musa and Arafat supporters in the areas recently.

SECURITY. — Haifa city inspectors and police yesterday issued dozens of tickets against stall owners in and around the Taiplot vegetable market for failure to safeguard their stalls against the placing of bombs.



This is Oz, the Haifa guard dog sentenced to die for biting a trespasser. (Israel Sun)

Knesset asks: May a guard dog bite?

By D'VORA BEN SHAUL
Jerusalem Post Reporter
The Knesset has set up a committee to decide whether a dog may bite.

The dog in question is "Oz," a guard dog that reportedly bit an intruder, while protecting a building site in Haifa. The attorney-general's office is demanding that Oz be killed. ("Oz" in Hebrew means courage.)

But MK Dov Shilansky (Herut) said yesterday that if Oz had no right to bite, the Knesset has no right to keep a whole kennel of guard dogs. If one of these bites an intruder it will have to be destroyed instead of being given a prize, Shilansky said.

Following his intervention, the committee was set up to determine whether a guard dog may bite.

In Israel thousands of guard dogs are used by the security services, at government installations and sensitive facilities. In addition, many

householders and shop or plant owners make use of guard dogs to protect themselves and their property. The use of such dogs has been recommended by the police as a deterrent to crime.

Israeli law, as it is presently interpreted, says in effect — keep a guard dog, train him to defend your property, but face a fine, imprisonment and the destruction of the dog if it bites.

Confessed burglars have preferred criminal charges against their victims after having been apprehended and bitten by a guard dog.

Shilansky, who sees this as a contradiction in terms of intent and practice, hopes the committee will throw some light on a subject that has concerned dog owners and dog trainers for many years.

David Rudge adds from Haifa: Oz's owners, brothers David and

Zeev Vinik, said yesterday the dog was the best guard they have ever had. "He is better than any man on woman because human beings can sometimes overlook things and are open to temptation whereas the dog is not," said David Vinik.

"In all the times he was on duty he never had any theft from the building site, but since he has been gone there have been several break-ins. He defended Oz, maintaining the dog — an Alsatian-Doberman cross — had only attacked trespassers on the site.

"He has never tried to attack one of the people who work on the site ourselves, only people who have business here need to be afraid," said David Vinik.

Vinik said the 2-year-old dog had been born on the building site and had grown up with it. "He was not just a guard dog; he was part of the family," he said.

Moran captain stands by stowaway decision

By YA'ACOV FRIEDLER
Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — Captain Avner Gilad, who is under investigation for endangering the life of the Tanzanian stowaway he put to sea on a raft from his ship, the m.s. Moran, off Mozambique over two years ago has declared he would "definitely act in the same way" if faced with the problem again.

"I believe I gave him the chance of his life and I am convinced he reached shore safely. If I had taken him back to Tanzania or to our next port in South Africa, he would have been killed," he said yesterday at a press conference sponsored by the Marine Officers Union, which is giving Gilad its full backing.

Gilad said he had known that Ze'ev Kornberg, who had passed the incriminating-looking pictures to a Tel Aviv daily which provoked the current wave of controversy, was photographing the incident.

"I could easily have stopped him

or confiscated his film. In fact, I encouraged him to take the pictures but asked him to photograph everything," he said.

The photos Kornberg had not produced, and which the official board of inquiry apparently didn't ask for, showed a rope ladder from the ship's side leading to the raft, the stowaway waving to the ship as he was approaching the shore, not far away, and other snaps that gave a different view of the event which would have vindicated him, Gilad said.

He added that Kornberg, who had presented himself to the news media as the ship's carpenter who had refused to build the raft, was only a seaman and had not been told to build it.

Another crew member, Eyal Faran, who had reported a "shark infested sea" had been on his second voyage at sea and was unlikely to know the difference between dolphins and sharks," the captain stated.

Gilad claimed the inquiry board had not worked in a professional manner, having failed to get the full series of photographs or to have checked the pilot books — which all seafarers use to steer their vessels near shores — and instead based their findings on a large scale map which showed no details.

He on the other hand, had carefully studied the pilot book and had chosen a spot where "very strong currents flow south towards a settled shore."

Gilad said that he had not yet been shown a copy of the board's findings. He had received from the director of the Shipping and Harbour Division, Shabtai Levy, the official 60-day suspension imposed on him for having endangered the ship.

He noted that Levy was charging him for having taken the Moran too near the shore, while the board, on which Levy had served, had condemned him for not having gone nearer

to shore to assure the stowaway's safety.

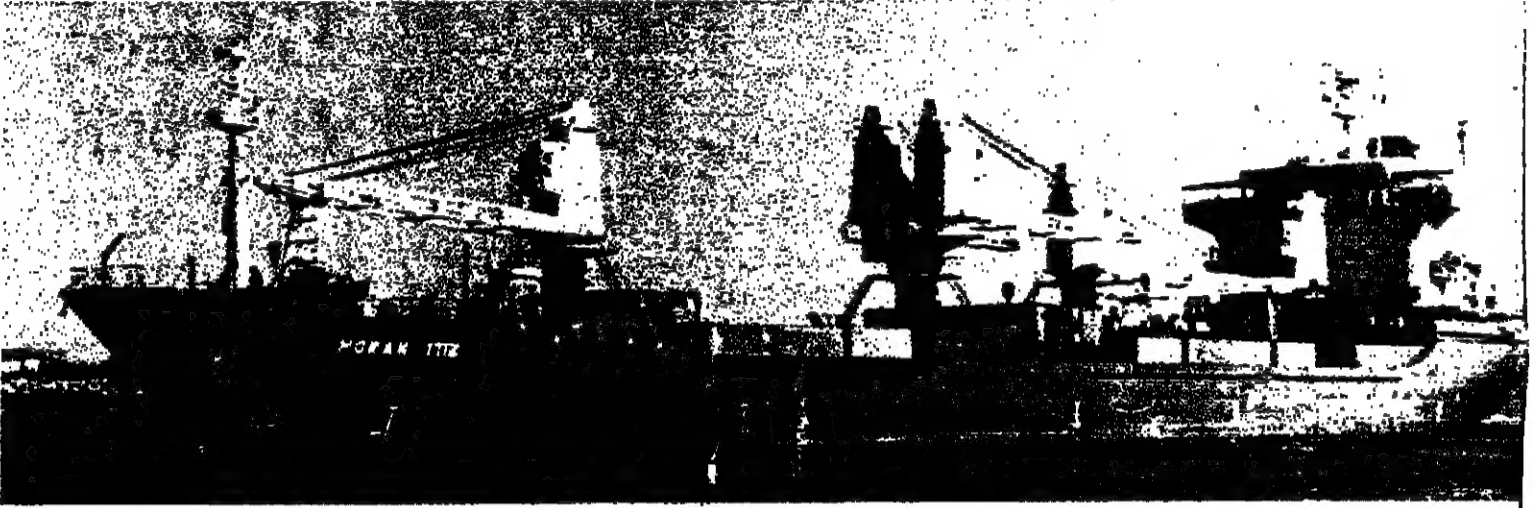
He added that as of noon yesterday the police, which is investigating the case, had not called on him.

Gilad said he knew of at least two cases of Africans having stowed away on Israeli ships and ferried back-and-forth for years because neither Israel nor any other country allowed them to land. Eventually they had been "disposed of" as some African shores.

He called on the government to amend the Shipping Law with specific instructions on how to deal with stowaways.

Gilad claimed the story had been raised after two and a half years "because somebody wanted my job which I was about to request after two years of study."

"He needn't have bothered, because the berth had been taken by the company told me I'd have to wait my turn," Gilad concluded.



The m.s. Moran.

Eitan: IDF can do without Lavi plane

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Former chief of general staff Rafael Eitan said last night that the Israel Defence Forces could do without the Lavi fighter plane. The MK (Tehiya) told Israel Television's Moked that there were substitutes for the Lavi, and there would be substitutes for the fighter in 10 years time also.

He said that scrapping the Lavi could prevent cuts in the health and

education budgets without harming security. He said there was "a layer of fat" in the IDF which could be trimmed. He said he had tried to achieve this as chief of general staff but more could be done.

DONATIONS. — Israelis have already donated more than IS40m. to Abie Nathan's effort to raise funds for relief of Ethiopian famine victims.

IDF PULLOUT

(Continued from Page One)

sovereignty to terrorist organizations. The reference was to the 1969 Cairo accords in which Lebanon agreed to allow Palestinian terrorists a free reign in South Lebanon.

According to a statement issued by the military command in Tel Aviv, Israeli delegation chief Tat-Aluf (Brig. Gen.) Amos Gilboa also complained about Lebanon's public statements.

Gilboa urged the Lebanese "to enter immediately into the constructive building of the agreement, step by step, and to abandon the system of repeated declarations to the media about the content and progress of the talks."

One source said the main cause of disagreement yesterday was the role for UN peacekeeping forces in areas evacuated by the IDF. The source said Israel wanted to know exactly where UN troops would be deployed and how many would be involved while Lebanon insisted the matter was up to Lebanon's government alone.

A source said Lebanon rejected an Israeli demand for Unifil presence between the Zahrani and Awali rivers.

The chief Lebanese delegate, Brig. Gen. Mohammed Hajj, asked the Israelis for a definition of what they meant by "the Lebanese Army and other Lebanese forces" controlling

ing the area evacuated, said the source.

The Israeli delegation insisted that the issue be left for later negotiations.

Israeli sources said the mention of "other Lebanese forces" refers to the South Lebanon Army. Lebanon has said it does not want the SLA to play any role in patrolling the South after Israel pulls out.

Bassam Sa'ad, spokesman for the Lebanese delegation, read the Lebanese statement which said "a complete withdrawal is the aim and the security measures are the means."

Gazit countered a short time later that "our withdrawal is absolutely dependent on achieving security arrangements" to protect Israel's northern border from future attacks. He said that Israel has "talked about withdrawing in six to nine months" once those arrangements were made but gave no specific date for a pull-out.

Sa'ad told reporters that Lebanon's army should have prime responsibility for security in the South after an Israeli pullout and be assisted by UN peacekeepers.

But Gilboa expressed doubts about the capabilities of the Lebanese Army.

"We have doubts as to its strength and capability at this time to take on itself the security of the area," said Gilboa.

He said the Lebanese Army's fragility had "become obvious" as the result of difficulties the Lebanese government was facing in attempts to deploy Lebanese soldiers in Beirut and southward along the coast to the IDF front line at the Awali River.

At yesterday's meeting Israel agreed to Lebanon's request that the number of meetings be reduced from three to two a week. The Lebanese said they did not have enough time to prepare for the meetings.

Israel formally registered its protest but agreed to meetings every Monday and Thursday. There will, however, be no meeting today because it is Lebanon's independence day.

TREASURY

(Continued from Page One)

But the officials insisted that the other ministries were carrying out their share in the cuts and some \$300m. has been slashed. If this figure is translated into annual terms, then the cut has been implemented as programmed, the officials said.

Speaking of the currently planned cuts, the officials said that since approved cuts dealt with operations, there is little room to carry them out in the current round of slashes. Therefore, they said, there is no other alternative but to dismiss workers from the public sector.

According to the officials, the overall reduction in public sector tenured positions will total some

18,000 jobs. But only half of the will be achieved by actual dismissal of workers. The rest will reflect abolition of positions not now occupied.

Meanwhile, the four-member ministerial committee dealing with the planned cuts met yesterday, ended its hearings.

The committee is formed by Finance Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, Economics Minister Gad Yarkoni and Ministers without Portfolio Moshe Arens and Ezer Weizman.

The committee is to meet next week with Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin, Education Minister Yehuda Navon and Health Minister Meir Dahan Gur. The meetings are followed by a special cabinet session at the end of next week.

My beloved husband, our dearest father, grandfather and son-in-law

DANIEL CRAVITT

passed away on November 18, 1984, in New York.

Deeply mourned and sadly missed by his loving wife, Gloria, son Josh, daughter and son-in-law, Becky and David Rosenbaum, granddaughter, Jordana, daughter and son-in-law, Shirah and Oleg Yarkoni, sister and brother-in-law, Glenn and Wilbur Friedson, mother-in-law, Mathilda Bronstein.

The funeral will take place today, Thursday, November 22, 1984 at 4.00 p.m. at the Herzliya Cemetery.

We mourn with Gloria and the family the untimely passing of our dear friend

DANNY CRAVITT

Cora and Morty Rabin and Family

Our very dear friend

DANIEL CRAVITT

passed away in New York on November 18, 1984.

Our deepest condolences to Gloria, his children and sister and Mathilda.

The Simon Family

Rate of unemployment up by third over 1983

Jerusalem Post Reporter
TEL AVIV. — The current rate of unemployment is 33 per cent higher than the average 1983 rate and climbing, according to a study of employment and unemployment trends prepared by the Histadrut's Economic and Social Research Institute.

The study, authored by institute director Yoram Barzilai, formed the basis of much of yesterday's discussion in the trilateral National Economic Council. The document analyzes work and unemployment trends between 1978 and 1984, using charts, tables and graphs.

Barzilai estimates that by the end of this year, unemployment would have grown to 100,000, or 7 per cent of the work force. At present, the number stands at 84,000, 5.9 per cent of the work force.

The worst-hit areas are development towns, which account for 43

per cent of the total number of unemployed, though they number only 9 per cent of the total population over the age of 15. Since 1979, the number of job seekers in development towns has risen by 107 per cent, compared with only 73 per cent for the country as a whole.

The reason for the increase in unemployment is the drop in job vacancies, the study says. Whereas in 1979, every job seeker had 1.25 job offers, the ratio today is 2.5 seekers to every offer. Employment in industry rose 4.5 per cent between 1978-84, while in the public sector it rose a full 80%.

The average number of work hours a week is surprisingly low for a country with a six-day work week — 36.7 hours a week, or 6.1 hours a day. The average in the public service is 10 per cent lower, at 33.1 hours a week (5.5 hours a day.)

Ma'alot jobless need hi-tech training

By ILAN CHAIM
Jerusalem Post Reporter
The lack of special training courses for jobs in high-technology industry is the only thing preventing full employment in Ma'alot, local council chairman Shlomo Bouhbour said yesterday.

Bouhbour told visiting State Employment Service director Baruch Haklay that of Ma'alot's 7,000 residents, 180 are registered as looking for work, and 95 persons are registered as unemployed for six days or more.

But with the proper training, Bouhbour said, all of the jobless could be absorbed in the area's high-tech industries. Some 2,500 workers

from Ma'alot and vicinity are employed in such technically sophisticated firms as Elscint and Telrad (electronics), Iscar (machine tools and turbine blades); and in more conventional plants like Vulcan Batteries, Gibor Textiles, Gal Plastics, the Military Industries, and others.

These industries can absorb about 1,000 more workers today, Bouhbour said, and about 2,000 more within two to three years.

Haklay promised to bring the council chairman's appeal for professional training facilities to the attention of Labour and Social Affairs Minister Moshe Katzav. In the framework of the ministry's national plan for the prevention of unemployment.

Construction workers threaten to strike

Jerusalem Post Reporter
TEL AVIV. — Construction workers are threatening to go on strike next week to protest the precarious state of the industry and to exert pressure on the government to implement emergency measures.

The strike is to be accompanied by a mass demonstration of construction workers outside government offices in Jerusalem. Date of the strike is to be determined in consultations between the Construction Workers Union and employers.

The strike was decided on yesterday during an emergency meeting of

the union central committee at Histadrut headquarters here. It was attended by heads of the Israel Building Contractors Centre and Solel Boneh managing-director Shraga Rotman. The employers expressed solidarity with the workers and approved the strike call.

The committee demanded that the government refrain from imposing cuts or a freeze on construction activity; recognize the industry as part of the manufacturing sector; release land for sale to Jews from abroad; and guarantee housing for young couples, either on a rental or purchase basis.

Gur: Don't help me run my own ministry

Jerusalem Post Reporter
I am the health minister and govt. government office is going to tell me how to run that ministry," said Minister Mordechai Gur yesterday told MK Ran Cohen.

In a meeting of the Knesset Health and Welfare Committee, Gur had asked whether, in light of conflicting statements being issued, dentists' price list is legal.

"The list is legal and under my strict supervision," Gur said. Obviously annoyed by the furor generated over the list, Gur added: "The Treasury can stop trying to

police the ministries; they have quite enough work of their own to do."

Last week, after dentists protested against the ministry's price list making charges for standard dental care far lower than those levied by many private dentists, Gur reached an agreement with the Israel Dentists Association that the list would serve merely as a "guideline," and that the dentists themselves would monitor prices.

But the next day the Treasury's price and wage committee said the list was legal and binding and must be adhered to in all particulars.

Plans to fire mailmen, ministry says

By JUDY SIEGEL
Jerusalem Post Reporter
The Communications Ministry yesterday denied charges by the Postal Workers Union that it plans to dismiss "hundreds" of mailmen

and have their work done by hired contractors.

Avi Hefetz, assistant spokesman of the ministry, was reacting to a protest against the alleged impending firings by Nissan Harpaz, secretary of the Jerusalem Labour Council.

Harpaz had issued a protest to Communication's Minister Amnon Rubinstein condemning the "firings" and the "intention" of the postal services to have mail delivered by outside contractors.

Hefetz said that even if the ministry had wanted to hire contractors, it could not do so because of the government freeze in signing new contracts. He added that there is no intention of dismissing hundreds of postmen, since the postal service is already short 30 staffers allowed by the government for mail service jobs.

"We will do all we can so as not to dismiss either mailmen or tellers at the postal banks or post offices," said Hefetz.

Like all ministries, the Communications Ministry will have to find ways of cutting manpower, he continued, but no decision has been taken to fire postmen.

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Genscher scraps plan to visit Poland Schoolchildren attack trapped Colombo police

WARSAW (Reuters). — Poland's hopes of significantly better relations with the West have been dealt a blow by the sudden postponement of a visit by West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher yesterday, diplomats announced.

The postponement also puts a question mark against plans by Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti to visit Warsaw before the year's end, they added.

There was speculation that Communist leader Wojciech Jaruzelski may have deliberately sacrificed his rapprochement policy towards the

West in order to appease restive hardliners in the party.

Jaruzelski has been locked in a struggle with hardliners since security police murdered an anti-Communist priest, Father Jerzy Popieluszko, last month. He blamed hardline elements for plotting the crime as a challenge to his leadership.

The Bonn Foreign Ministry said Genscher called off his visit after a Polish warning to him not to lay a wreath on the grave of Popieluszko, who was a leading supporter of the banned Solidarity free trade union. Genscher was also told he could

not lay flowers at a German military cemetery or bring with him a West German journalist accused of criticizing the Polish authorities.

Hamburg officials said nearly 300 Polish tourists had failed to return to two ships docked in West German ports in the past few days but the Genscher trip postponement did not appear to be linked to this.

Police said 93 Poles jumped ship on Friday after going shopping in Travemuende, and Hamburg city officials said a further 192 quit a cruise liner there Tuesday and about 100 had asked for political asylum.

Schoolchildren attack trapped Colombo police

COLOMBO (Reuters). — About 60 schoolchildren, aged 13 to 16, attacked police trapped under the debris of a police station blown up by Tamil separatist guerrillas, survivors of the blast said yesterday.

The Sri Lankan government said at least 29 crack police commandos died when a guerrilla bomb squad backed by about 250 rebels blew up the Chavakachcheri police station in the troubled northern Jaffna district Tuesday afternoon.

One of the survivors of the police force of about 45 men, Inspector Subramaniam, claimed the children hurled Molotov cocktails, picked up the guns of fallen police and fired at them as they lay trapped under concrete rubble.

The children struck about an hour after the police station was brought crashing down by two blasts and the rebels had left.

"The boys were dressed in blue shorts and white shirts — school uniform of the region. They picked up guns and started shooting at anything. If someone cried out he was shot. They left the police station with everything we had," Subramaniam said from his hospital bed in Colombo.

The raid, the biggest ever staged by the rebels, started at about 2.30 p.m. when a 14-year-old boy told the sentry at the locked entrance to the police station compound that he wanted to report the loss of his identity card, according to a government statement.

When the sentry opened the gate, about 35 rebels dressed in military-style uniforms rushed into the compound.

They opened fire on the station and another band of about 100 rebels joined the attack with hand grenades and machine-gun fire.

General wounded in Basque revenge attack

MADRID (Reuters). — A retired Spanish army general was shot and seriously wounded here yesterday in what officials said appeared to be retaliation for the murder in Bilbao of a Basque nationalist politician.

General Luis Roson Perez, the army ordinance chief until he retired four days ago and brother of ex-interior minister Jose Roson, was gunned down in his car together with his military driver by two men who pumped 23 bullets into the vehicle.

Hospital officials said both were in serious condition.

Security sources said they believed ETA carried out the attack in revenge for the murder in Bilbao Tuesday night of Santiago Brouard, a leader of the group's political wing, the Herri Batasuna.

Politicians said both events were likely to torpedo attempts by the socialist government to start peace talks with ETA and were almost certain to bring further violence.

Leaked French report: 3,000 Libyans in Chad

PARIS (Reuters). — Chad Information Minister Mahamat Soumaila called yesterday for renewed French military intervention in his country as a leaked intelligence report said 3,000 Libyan troops backed by missiles, armour and helicopters were in the northern part of the former central African colony.

Soumaila, speaking on French television, said: "If there is to be a fresh intervention (of French troops), it should be in a much more dynamic fashion, much firmer and more active."

The leaked report in the left-wing newspaper *Libération* was prepared for President Francois Mitterrand by the National Defence Secretariat, which coordinates inter-ministerial defence questions under the au-

spices of Prime Minister Laurent Fabius.

The figure of 3,000 conflicts with Mitterrand's statement last week that only two or three Libyan battalions — 800 to 1,000 men — were still in Chad. But it tallies with information from U.S. State Department officials on Tuesday.

Libération said there was dispute in the French military hierarchy over the figures, but it said all sources agreed that the troops included some freshly brought in from Libya.

A spokesman for the National Defence Secretariat declined to confirm or deny the report's existence. However, a Defence Ministry spokesman confirmed it existed and said the figure of 3,000 was "higher than reality."

'Libyan hit team knew Egyptians were cops'

CAIRO (AP). — A four-man Libyan hit team sent to Egypt to kill a former Libyan prime minister went ahead with the mission although at least three of them knew their Egyptian collaborators were policemen, Egypt's leading newspaper reported yesterday.

The state-owned daily *Al-Ahram* quoted the commander of a police team as saying he approached two Maltese members of the hit team when they arrived at Cairo International Airport and told them he knew of their plans but was willing to cooperate for a price.

The newspaper quoted the commander, whose name was not given, as saying he told the Maltese that he and his men were working with a "highly placed" Egyptian intelligence officer who would help them kill former Libyan prime minister Abdel-Hamid Bakoush.

The report said the two Maltese fell for the ploy and summoned the alleged hit team leader, Anthony Gill, 48, of London.

Al-Ahram quoted the commander as saying he told Gill he and his men were Egyptian security agents when Gill was embroiled in a dispute with the Libyans over earmarking more money for the operation.

"We disclosed to Anthony Gill... that we were Egyptian security men and we knew everything, but we would cover up in return for \$150,000. The terrorist was astounded, but he was now assured that it would be possible to carry out the operation quickly and that we would facilitate his exit from Egypt quickly," the commander said.

Al-Ahram said Gill sent for fellow Briton Godfrey Shiner, 47. Gill, Shiner and the two Maltese were arrested on Saturday, one day

after Libyan Radio announced that the "stray dog" Bakoush had been executed.

Bakoush turned up Saturday night at a Cairo news conference, where Interior Minister Ahmed Rushdi revealed that the Egyptian policemen faked Bakoush's murder by using a movie makeup artist to help the Libyan exile feign death.

Al-Ahram said the four Egyptians allowed the Libyan agents only a quick glance at Bakoush's "body." The Egyptians smeared human blood over Bakoush in case Libyan intelligence used special techniques on photographs of him to determine if the blood was real.

Although Egyptian newspapers have identified Gill as the hit team's leader, the British textile and spare parts dealer insists he was merely a "family man" caught up by the lure of money and adventure.

Italian strikers demand crackdown on tax evaders

ROME (Reuters). — Union organizers of a four-hour general strike which halted Italy's industry and transport system yesterday demanded a crackdown on alleged tax evasion by self-employed entrepreneurs.

An estimated 18 million members of the big three trade union confederations, CGIL, CISL, and UIL, took part in the half-day stoppage, union spokesmen said.

All public transport including air travel was either halted or severely curtailed and private motorists found many city centres blocked by processions and strike meetings.

In Rome, the left-wing Radical

Party distributed soup and bread in the central Piazza Navona "for all those traders like jewellers, furriers and restaurant owners who say they don't earn enough to pay taxes."

Franco Marini, general secretary of the pro-Catholic CISL, demanded parliamentary approval of Finance Minister Bruno Visentini's package aimed at tightening fiscal control over the self-employed, considered the worst tax evaders by his ministry.

The union leader said Visentini's plan to make the traders and professionals pay value added and personal income taxes in advance was particularly important for a fairer distribution of the national tax burden.

Petrol bombs hurled at working miners

LONDON (AP). — Violence flared anew in Britain's coal strike yesterday with pickets in its South Yorkshire heartland putting up blazing barricades and bombarding working miners and police with petrol bombs and rocks.

But the militants, who launched what South Yorkshire police called a series of "concerted attacks" throughout the coalfield in north England, failed to halt the return to work by disgruntled colleagues, the National Coal Board reported.

A police spokesman said that in one attack, two officers were cut by flying glass when masked men firing ball bearings from slingshot ambushed a police van in the mining village of South Elmsall, smashing its windshield.

The National Coal Board said the back-to-work campaign among strike-weary miners continued. Early returns from coalfields around the country for yesterday morning's shift showed 550 "new starters," the board said.

Sports

Israel draw 1-1 with Rumania



Eli Ohana beats a Rumanian to the ball.

By PAUL KOHN
Post Sports Reporter
PETAH TIKVA. — Lack of motivation cost Israel victory against Rumania here yesterday, the teams parting 1-1 after a ragged and uninspiring international match.

Israel led 1-0 at half-time, thanks to an Eli Ohana header in the 32nd minute. David Pizanti made the break along the left wing, before crossing accurately to give Ohana a simple task. Until then the Rumanians did most of the attacking, for long periods pinning the entire Israeli team into their own half.

In the first ten minutes, Rumania's Klein hit the Israeli post with a vicious drive, the tricky Hagi saw his fine drive saved by goalkeeper Bonnie Ginsburg, and Nissim Barda, Israel's outstanding player in de-

fence, cleared off the goal line. Malmilian tried repeatedly to the Israeli attack moving, but only Ohana cross-shot in the 40th minute spelt any further danger to the Israeli goal.

Especially in the second half, the defence showed appalling slackness. Even in possession of the ball, the defenders were to clear it out of their goal area, preferring to tip it. The Rumanians were far more accurate in their attack, when they were not in possession of the ball. On this performance there is a possibility that they will suffer thorough trouncing by the English. In future international games, Israeli players will have provided many more for the front-runners, Zaid Arzani and Eli Ohana who were starved of support yesterday.

SPORTOTO

By PAUL KOHN
TEL AVIV. — Two pointers, from Ashdod and Rehovot, each won IS112m, plus for marking correctly all 13 results in last week's Sportoto football pool. Even 12 correct forecasts won IS282,000, each, eleven collected IS39,000 and ten IS4,900.

Sportoto's income last week totalled IS746m, and a minimum of IS200m, will be paid out in prize money after this Saturday's games.

SUGGESTIONS	Single Line	Permutation
Yerusa v Betar J'm	2	X2
Hap TA v Netanya	2	X2
Hap Haifa v Jaffa	X	1X
Ekachsh v Hap PT	X	X
Mac PT v Kfar Sava	1	1X
Bnei Shimon v Betar TA	1	1
Lod v Mac Haifa	2	2
Shimon v Mac TA	X	X
Bnei Yehuda v K. Shimon	1	1
Maccabi v Hap Yehud	X	X
Betar Haifa v H. Shimon	2	2
Therion v Hap RG	X	X
R. Ashdod v Betar Ramle	X	X

SCOREBOARD

CRICKET. England 231 for 1 against West Indies (Graeme Fowler 116, including 3 sixes and 13 fours, The Richards 92 not out).

NBA. — Portland 117, New Jersey 107; Dallas 109, Milwaukee 106; New York 106, Golden State 101; Kansas City 129, Utah Jazz 122; Washington 128, Philadelphia 105; Houston 123, Detroit 117; Los Angeles Lakers 120, Phoenix 106; Denver 124, Seattle 114.

NHL. St. Louis 5, Vancouver 1.

Everton rocked

LONDON (AP). — Second Division Grimsby Town caused one of the major upsets of the English season, when they beat First Division leaders Everton 1-0 away from home in the fourth round of the FA Cup competition. An 89th minute header by striker Paul Williams sank Everton, favourites to win trophy and last year's beaten finalists.

In other Milk Cup matches Ipswich beat Oxford 2-1; Sheffield Wednesday beat Luton 4-2; Southampton drew with Queens Rangers 1-1; Watford beat Bromwich Albion 4-1.

Perkis wins

TEL AVIV. — Israeli tennis player Shabar Perkis and Gilad Blum yesterday scored fine first-round singles victories in their respective tournaments in South Africa. Perkis beat West Cape Span Elmer 6-4, 6-4 in the \$200 Altech South African Open Johannesburg, but, Shimon G. Stein and Amos Mandel both

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LAUNDRY POWDER PERSIL 3 kg.
Stable Price: 550.-
450.-

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But will it sell?

The Israel Export Institute offers special services to industries contemplating export, Macabee Dean reports.

EXPORTS are assuming an ever greater importance today to many industrialists running both small and medium-sized plants. "They have the feeling that the local market will begin to dry up soon," according to Rami Gutt, director-general of the Israel Export Institute (IEI).

"And we here at the institute are doing everything possible to get those already exporting to increase—even double—shipments," he adds, "while we are also making an overall effort to help pave the export market."

Gutt points out that "the last three or four years were very good to many industrialists, for the local market was booming. And profits were high. So, many never had a reason to look up, and overseas, for their profits."

And it is profits, both here and abroad, which is the oil "which makes industry run smoothly," Gutt stresses. He says that industrialists, even if they cannot sell their goods locally, will not even consider trying to open new markets abroad unless they are assured of two things: that they are not moving into a money-losing proposition; and, that they can make a profit.

Profitability of exports is, therefore, essential. But how does a manufacturer, who has never tried to export, know if he can make a profit abroad? How does he even know that he can export at all, for competition abroad is fierce, much more than that in Israel itself?

"We have two services for new exporters or present exporters who are thinking of introducing a new line," Gutt says.

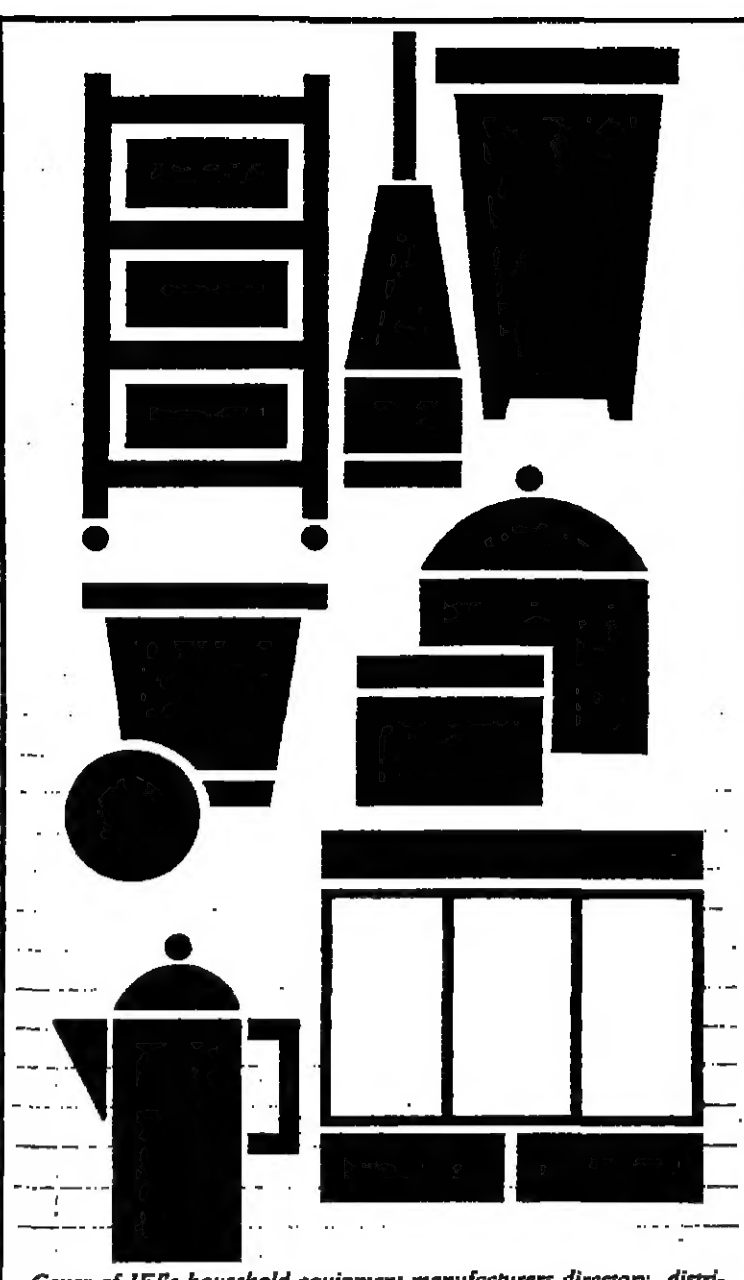
Firstly, the IEI examines the "appropriateness of the product." This is a complicated process and the institute uses a team of five persons, all experts in their field, who are familiar with market potentialities abroad.

One of these experts is sent to a plant upon request of the manufacturer, and this expert draws up a "profile" of the product, and asks it too heavy to be shipped abroad by air; is sea freight too slow; are manufacturers from other countries trying to corner the market abroad by dumping their products; will the product run into non-tariff barriers, and so on.

After the profile is drawn up and there are good possibilities that the product can be exported (although no one really knows until customers abroad begin buying it), then target countries are selected. The IEI considers, for example, whether the best potential market is the U.S., the Common Market (despite the drop in the value of their currencies), or perhaps the Far East.

After this, the institute initiates its second service: An export expert is sent upon request to each plant, and spends there one day—an eight-hour day—every week for 10 consecutive weeks.

Says Gutt: "Our expert works closely with the head of the plant, or with his newly appointed export director, in drawing up more specific



Cover of IEI's household equipment manufacturers directory, distributed abroad.

plans." This encompasses setting a price for the product, a price competitive enough so it will sell, but not too low so that there will be no profit.

Then the method of marketing is selected. Considerations include should an agent abroad be granted a franchise, or should the product be shipped directly to a wholesaler, an importer, or distributor. There are many ways of moving products in foreign markets. Promotional activities also are determined at this stage.

"Even the recommended price for the retailer is determined," says Gutt.

"Gone are the mousetrap days," he adds, pointing out that at one time, selling products depended mainly on producing better-quality goods. The proverb at the time was: "If you build a better mousetrap, the world will beat a path to your door."

In today's world, there are plenty of good mousetraps, and there are even more excellent salesmen out there trying to beat a path to the

customer's door. The situation has thus changed drastically.

Once a week, on Fridays, the export experts meet at the Export Institute's headquarters in Tel Aviv.

"They consult among each other and pick each other's brains," Gutt says. "They plan contracts with the government officials and set in motion as many other factors as possible to help the manufacturer."

In the last two months, he notes, 30 plants have "graduated" the 10-week IEI course; another 15 are now waiting their turn—generally for a month or so—for the services of the experts.

"At present, the demand is mainly from small to medium high-technology plants," Gutt says. "But one of our greatest successes was helping a fashion manufacturer break into the export market—and with considerable success."

Gutt considers a "small" plant one with a turnover under \$7 million a year; a medium one, with a turnover of between \$7m. to \$20m.; and a large plant one with above \$20m.

ARIE Shemesh, president of MLL Computer and Software Industries, believes that software will become a big business in Israel in the near future, even though all the mistakes possible have been made in turning software into an export industry.

His company is now starting to sell software, and even some hardware which improves the software. But he admits that they have much larger expectations.

"The main problem in the field here today is that there are not enough people with experience—I mean at least five to seven years," says Shemesh, who has been in the computer business for 34 years.

"Also, most of the people in this field have gone over to writing software for book-keeping and auditing, because that is where the money is. Consequently, in our small country there are over 150 such programmes developed mainly by small companies of two or three people. This has turned the field into a jungle. They slash prices and even then find it hard to get new clients."

Another problem today is that hardware (the computers them-

The software jungle

Yitzhak Oked hears about the bugs in Israel's approach to exporting computer programmes.

projects at a time, which means an outlay of about \$2 million. Software intended for the export market must be foolproof, or as computer people say, "product-out-of-bugs," and ready to operate. If there is a problem with software marketed locally, buyers can phone up the company and clarify the problem. "When we do something for the export market, we want it to be as perfect as possible," he said.

The best solution for Israelis is to sell abroad through existing software houses, he believes. Though in 1983 Shemesh's company exported only about \$40,000 worth of software, in 1984 they hope to reach about \$1 million and in 1985 maybe \$4m.

Among the items that MLL has a good chance of exporting is a visual information management

system (VIMS), something like the display at airports stating arrivals and departures of planes. Shemesh is very excited about the prospects abroad of his company's sophisticated VIMS.

He also sees high export potential in a programme that, together with a small piece of computer hardware, can transform a small micro-computer into an Arabic and English word-processor.

This word-processor has already been shown abroad and aroused great interest among computer agents in Arab countries.

MLL went public in October 1983 and 25 per cent of the company's stock is traded on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange. The remaining stock is in the hands of Shemesh, his partner Amir Shor and Ampa Investments.

MLL is the biggest professional organization in the field of data-processing and marketing of systems and computers in Israel. Among the companies that they represent are Tandy, Radio Shack, MSI - Data Corporation, Philips Data System, General Automation and Okidata.

THOSE little pieces of paper that we lick and put on letters are goodwill ambassadors for Israel. Every stamp, no matter how small, puts across a message, both to local residents and people around the world. What many people do not know is that stamps are also big business, and countries all over the world are trying to corner a part of the market.

In this respect Israel is no different. The Philatelic Service, a department of the Ministry of Communications, has the job of dreaming-up more beautiful stamps and finding ways to export them.

Yisroel Beilin, director of the service, said that even though Israel's stamps are beautiful, it's becoming tougher and tougher to export. "Today you have microscopic nations whose main income is from printing stamps. These nations choose stamp subjects for their commercial value."

A goodwill export

Yitzhak Oked

rather than for any connection to the country's heritage or history."

Because of this, he said, the service is changing its marketing strategy. The main emphasis today is on Jewish and Christian markets.

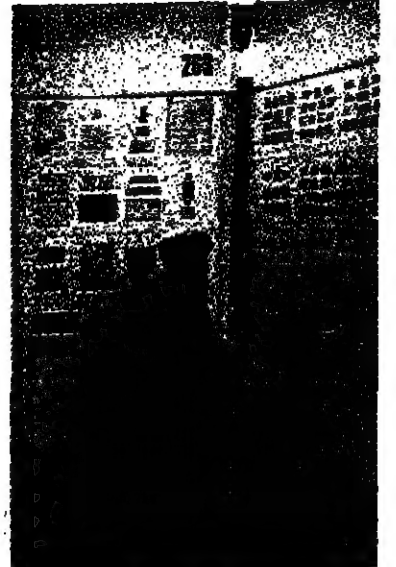
A new agent appointed last year in the U.S. is offering American subscribers to the Israel Philatelic Service direct service to their homes, so that they need not go to a store to buy new issues.

The service is also increasing its participation in exhibitions abroad and encourages the staging of small Israeli stamp exhibitions on a local level at synagogues and churches. For example, one of the main syna-

gogues in Atlanta, Georgia is planning to hold such an Israeli stamp exhibition soon.

During the 1983/84 fiscal year the service exported mint stamps worth about \$1.5m. This sum may not seem large, but since most of the stamp series that come out cost less than one dollar, this means that hundreds of thousands of Israeli stamps reach all four corners of the world. There are also millions of cancelled (used) Israeli stamps, that are traded or bought by collectors, but such transactions are not handled by the service.

Beilin hopes that the present fiscal year will not see a decline in exports. In fact, he is even optimistic that the coming year will show an increase in the export of new Israeli stamps.



Israeli stamps on display at a recent exhibit in Jerusalem.

Mixing high-tech with military knowhow

Joseph Morgenstern

dered in the forefront of a number of technologies—including those associated with guided missiles, electronic warfare systems and advanced tanks.

Gafram has a number of operating divisions. One of these, Elgal, develops and produces electronic devices. A second division, Opgal, makes electro-optic products.

Gafram is unique in its direct access to the capabilities of Rafael. The latter employs some 7,000 persons, one-third of which are scientists and engineers. Rafael also is the country's largest R & D and engineering firm, in addition to being a major producer and exporter. (Although its work is mostly secret, Rafael is credited with providing the technological excellence associated with Israel's destruction in Lebanon of a major portion of the Soviet-built Syrian air force.)

One of the spinoffs of military technology at Gafram is a labour-saving robot being offered for down-to-earth applications in the textile industry. The patented Double-Ply Loader represents a new concept in fabric parts handling.

Essentially, it loads and matches small fabric plies quickly and accurately by using a unique air flow method. The robot arm subsequently picks up the top ply and positions it on the matching table. A second ply is then separated and picked up from a second "bundle" and placed precisely over the first ply. The placement is accurate to 1/32 of one inch.

The Rhythmos loader is used in the manufacture of shirts, trousers, jeans, coats and workclothes. It also handles footwear and leather accessories and is useful in the production of automobile interior trim.

Gafram's marketing managers describe the Rhythmos as being highly cost-effective and suggest to its potential customers that they should be able to amortize the machine's cost in one to two years.

This month, Gafram is celebrating its second birthday and is now preparing itself for an infusion of private investment capital. The company's motto is taken from the biblical "from swords to plowshares," expressing its continued access to the capabilities of Rafael.

Gafram is now looking for private investment funds for meeting its future capital requirements. In addition to its electronic and electro-optical divisions, it is readying new divisions for industrial automation and robotic systems and for micro-electronic components.

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Wordmill is marketed in three versions: Hebrew/English-Hebrew; Hebrew-Foreign/Foreign-Hebrew for the printing industry; Multi-lingual (English, French, German, etc.).

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Wordmill is sold in Israel by most IBM personal computer dealers as well as Digital and its authorised dealers. Wordmill's version for the printing industry is marketed by Pal-Ron. A list of distributors abroad is available from:

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The natural way to go

Aviva Bar-Am hears about the trips and treks being organized this winter by the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel.

SPELUNKERS, backpackers, rope climbers, hikers and families just out for fun can get off the beaten track this winter with the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel (SPNI).

Tours are planned and operated by the SPNI's 25 field study centres throughout the country. These centres have guest facilities (rooms with adjoining toilets and hot showers), lecture halls, study areas, kosher dining rooms and synagogues.

Your guide, provided by the centre, will be a handpicked nature addict who has undergone intensive training in addition to courses in first aid. Since each guide handles only 20-25 people, tours are informal and personal.

Winter vacationers should go either north or south, says Joe Shadur, editor of the society's magazine, *Israel - Land and Nature*. He suggests the Negev, "where the mountains are in bloom," and the waterfalls and running streams of the Galilee and Golan Heights.

Doron Kaynar, director of the Ein Gedi centre, recommends visiting the Judean Desert during the winter when, he says, "a variety of animals are roaming about and the changing colours make the desert come alive."

SPNI offers a large number of trips, falling into three broad categories: "roughing it" tours, those with a special focus, and family trips.

Hikers can try the "roving camp," which consists of four- to five-day long walks with nights spent out of doors. Although a general itinerary exists in advance, decisions are made in the field as to how long to stay at each spot and where to go next.

The roving camp is recommended for adaptable people willing to sleep under often difficult conditions. Youngsters have to be at least 16 to participate. This winter's tour will be a cross-country hike of the Negev, December 20-25.

Backpacking tours are also intended for adventurous souls, and participating children must be at least 12. The backpackers' trip is

planned carefully in advance but contains difficult hiking out in the wilds. From December 24-27 the Ein Gedi centre is offering a tour in the Judean Desert for people who want to spend three days away from civilization looking for desert animals and birds.

Adults over 19, with experience in rappelling and rope climbing, are invited to participate in the "challenge camps" whose trails sometimes include cave explorations or inner-tubing down rivers. Two-day beginners' courses in rappelling, knot tying and rope climbing are offered during the winter and there will be several winter challenge camps in which participants can rapel down steep cliffs.

Good hikers' tours involve long stretches of difficult walking, swimming through deep water and climbing. People interested in a challenge to their physical endurance and the opportunity to reach inaccessible areas may find these ideal. Children must be over 14 to go along. A number of such trips are available during the winter, in areas as diverse as the Hermon mountains and the central Arava.

"Special topic tours" this season include cave expeditions and bird-watching. On November 27-28 travellers can visit the Igrot Cave at Nahal Hever in the Judean Desert, where Bar Kochba's rebels hid from the Romans. Outdoor camping is included in this trip.

Inside the three kilometre long Malham Cave at Har Sdom, participants will learn map navigation on December 20.

Desert birds are the focus of an SPNI family hiking trip to Har Hanegev planned for January 25-26.

Family travel includes "regular" and "easy" tours, private car trips and vacation camps - all involving at least some walking and explanations from an SPNI guide. "Regular" tours are 1-2 day trips and you can pick from an endless list of locations. Children must be at least 12.

For families with young children (5 and up) there are "easy" tours.

On "private car" trips you can join a caravan, stopping at places along the route for stretches of easy walking and explanations about the area. Participants in the December 23 car tour will collect mushrooms in the Upper Galilee and learn to cook them. A car trip on Tu B'Shvat will go from Tel Gezer to Mitzpe Har El in Emek Ayalon.

Vacation camps are another type of family travel which, having recently returned from one held at the Ein Gedi field study centre, I can personally recommend. Also called "family vacations," the trips are suitable for children from age five, but are stimulating enough so that older people find them exciting and rewarding.

The hikes are perfectly organized and successfully combine instruction with pure, unadulterated fun. On a half-day tour of Wadi Mashash and Wadi Murba'at, for example, we descended dry waterfalls by way of pegs and ropes, landing in mountain pools. Although it sounds difficult, it was exhilarating fun, quite easily managed even by the kids. Our guide, made historical and geographical information comprehensible and interesting to everyone, giving vivid explanations and adding legends about the area's name and flora.

Evenings were spent at games with an educational twist (bingo in riddles, for example, or treasure hunts in which the clues related to the Judean Desert). Social games combined with educational content, were part of the successful effort to form a cohesive group. Experts on zoology showed slides and offered discussions on animals in the area.

During Hanukkah vacation the following field study centres are offering vacation camps: Sde Boker (desert springs), Hatzeva (Negev and Arava trails), Ma'ale Ephraim (Samaria and Jordan valley), Ein Gedi (Dead Sea swimming, caves and springs), Har Hanegev (craters, new Israeli-Egyptian border), Ma'agan Michael (water birds special), Ofra (rocks and water in Samaria) and Eilat.

Added attractions this winter: seven days in the Sinai (December 19-25), and a five-day Hanukkah seminar with field trips in Jerusalem. Shabbat observers will be able to attend many of the regular SPNI trips and are also invited to special "Oneg Shabbat" weekends which include short walks and lectures.

Special bonus: Hanukkah camp for 12-14-year-olds at the Achziv centre.

For details and registration for SPNI's multitude of tours, only a few of which I've mentioned, call: Jerusalem, 222357, 244603; Tel Aviv, 382501; Haifa, 654133; Beersheba, 32156.

UPPER Egypt. Mile upon glorious mile of marvel along the Nile, from Denderah in the north to Abu Simbel in the south, on a 300-mile stretch including the awesome splendour of Karnak, the eerie stillness of the Valley of the Kings with the Colossus of Memnon standing guard; ancient temples, smiling gods, forever-youthful pharaohs.

The towering mass of the Aswan High Dam is a brash and threatening newcomer in this ageless landscape. And further to the south are the brooding temples of Abu Simbel and fragile phantoms of Philae.

The incredibly ancient monuments of Upper Egypt date back from the earliest days of civilization. After centuries of glory, it is as if they disappeared with the great empires which had created them. The sand covered the tombs of the great Kings; pillars crumbled in the desert. The huge temples stood silent and still.

And then came the 1800s. After centuries of oblivion, the wonders of Egypt were revealed to the world. Trophy after trophy were taken by the Western conquerors to adorn their capitals. The French had their obelisk, stolen from Luxor, while the British enjoyed Cleopatra's Needle. Disturbed in their eternal sleep, mummies of long-dead pharaohs, were dissected by curious scientists. And the tourists started coming to Upper Egypt.

It was only a trickle at first. The trip was arduous and lengthy: More than 700 miles from Cairo. However, soon enough the reputation of the incomparable treasures hidden for so long was drawing crowds.

The building of dams in the early 20th century was to make the trip up river more and more difficult. One tends to forget that the first dams were built by the British; their purpose was to make more water available for the new wonder crop - cotton - which was taking over the world markets.

Who cared in those pre-conservationist days if the dam drowned the Temple of Philae for 10 months out of 12, or if the water eroded thousands-of-years-old stones? The death of Philae contributed to an increase of 75 million Egyptian pounds in the annual yield of cotton. The doomed temple emerged from the water at springtime for two months, and flowers blossomed briefly around the ancient gods.

Then came plans for the building of the High Dam, begun in 1956, which would change forever the face of the river - and of Egypt - and stipulate the drowning of yet precious sites, Abu Simbel. But this time, experts from all over the world worked together under the aegis of

Golden season in Upper Egypt

Michelle Mazel describes the miles of marvels which await both money-conscious and luxury-minded tourists in Egypt.



(Drawing: Eliahu Eilon)

Unesco to save the twin temples.

It was no longer possible to travel up river from Cairo; however, progress in air and land travel had ushered in the era of mass tourism. Far more people began to come, with less time and less money to spend.

Nowadays, tourists fly to Luxor or Aswan, the twin poles of the empire of Upper Egypt, and fly back after just one, two or three days. They can also get there by train: There are three departures each day from Cairo to Aswan, a 16-hour run. There is also a luxury sleeper train, every bit as expensive as the plane (about \$100 round-trip from Cairo).

Winter is the golden season in Upper Egypt. Benevolent sun and balmy nights conspire to turn it into a tourist paradise when the snow is falling in Paris and New York.

The typical tour of Upper Egypt

includes Luxor, the ancient Thebes and capital city of the Egyptian empire at its greatest, long before King David ruled in Jerusalem; the temple of Karnak (there is a remarkable sound and light show there, with the voice of the late Richard Burton); and, on the other side of the Nile, the Valley of the Kings including the tomb of Tutankhamen, and the Valley of the Queens and the Tombs of the Nobles.

Unfortunately, most organized tours allow for only one morning at the latter sites. Then the hurried tourist is taken by coach or train to Aswan, there to see the High Dam, Kitchener Island, Elephantine Island, etc.

From Aswan, the plane trip to Abu Simbel, about 150 miles up river, is optional (meaning an extra \$100), yet it is probably one of the highlights of the whole tour.

Here in Israel there is a wide choice of organized tours available to Egypt, by coach and rail. The problem is to give the tourist a maximum of things to see for a minimum of money and in a relatively short time. Most companies offer a balanced programme with practically identical features, for about the same price. However, a closer look brings to light a few interesting factors.

Though the basic price for the so-called eight-day grand tour of Egypt is today about \$400, the list of what is not included in that price is sometimes impressive.

For instance, Neot Hakikar has a

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"Land of the Pharaohs" eight-day special. This Sunday-to-Sunday trip offers two days in Cairo and four days in Upper Egypt, the trip to Cairo and back accounting for one day each way. This well-conceived package is priced at \$365 but, according to the brochure, the price does not include "visa expenses, border taxes, lunches, dinners and drinks, tips" and, of course, the optional tour to Abu Simbel and the sound and light shows at Karnak and the Pyramids.

Gama Tours has a similar Sunday-to-Sunday trip, for \$399; this time dinner is thrown in. However, once again Abu Simbel and the sound and light shows are extra.

Galilee Tours has a "Down the Road to Peace" eight-day, seven-night plan for \$465, with the same options as the above tours; nothing is said about food.

Pullman Tours has a slightly shorter version - Monday to Sunday - for \$365 on half-board basis, with the usual options.

In some of the above trips, the additional cost of food, drinks, and optional tours combined with visa, taxes and tips may well double the basic price. It pays to check and double check before signing on.

This year the Hanukkah vacation coincides with the Christmas vacation in the Western World (Egyptian Copts celebrate Christmas later). Upper Egypt will be crowded, the planes and trains booked to capacity and beyond. This will definitely not be the time to go on your own.

Of course, there is another way to visit Upper Egypt: The Nile cruise. This is the ultimate in tourist comfort and enjoyment. The traveller, having flown in from Cairo, embarks at Luxor (or Aswan) on a luxury river boat complete with swimming pool, sundeck, air-conditioned cabins. The all-inclusive price includes - besides sight-seeing - breakfast, lunch, afternoon tea, dinner, dancing every night as well as a traditional *galabiyeh* party at the end of the trip.

There is a short cruise (five days, four nights) and a long one (eight days, seven nights); the long one offers such exotic delights as Denderah, Karnak and Luxor, Edfu, Esna, Kom Ombo, Philae, the Aga Khan museum, Elephantine and Kitchener Island and - of course - the High Dam. Here again, Abu Simbel is optional, since it involves a flight up river to the island beyond the dam.

The cost of such a cruise runs high at peak period, during Christmas and Easter: \$1,500 for an eight-day cruise for two. (This does not include the trip from Israel to and from Cairo.)

In the hot summer months, prices plummet to as little as \$400 for a five-day cruise for two. If one is not too susceptible to heat, the summer cruise is the best way to enjoy Upper Egypt at bargain prices.

In between, prices vary. The Nile cruise market is a fiercely competitive business, with dozens of companies running their own riverboats and cruises - including all the big hotels (Sheraton, Hilton, Marriott), the Club Mediterranée and many others.

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WINTER is coming and all we crazy skiers are getting restless: we need our annual shot of flying in the snow. But this year we have problems. The Mt. Hermon ski area - hitherto our "ersatz-ski" - is closed and up for sale. And going abroad means using dollars, which is somewhat unpatriotic and expensive too.

Let's begin with the most expensive possibility. For \$20 million we could buy the Mt. Hermon ski resort. Probably \$10m. would do it, too. But what if there is no snow again this year?

Let's go back to reality and see what's on the market. There really is a bewildering number of opportunities. Unfortunately, prices for package tours are still on the verge of being published and the new tax laws are somewhat ambiguous, so we're left with a little guessing.

Let's have a look at the other end of the scale. The cheapest thing around should be Rumania. At EWTR Tourtevel in Jerusalem, the empty little office was about to close early and the man in charge radiated pessimism. When I asked about ski tours to Rumania and Yugoslavia - their specialty - he responded, "But nobody is travelling this year." Prices were not available, not even last year's, but I did get some hints.

A 15-day package tour to one of three ski resorts in Rumania, of which Sinaia is probably the best, costs about \$1,100 including airfare, though it is not clear whether or not one has to add the 15 per cent foreign currency surcharge to all or part of this. The package includes half board for 12 days and the use of ski lifts. The highest ski altitude is 2,000 metres. Visitors say they liked the rustic atmosphere. A similar deal in Yugoslavia costs 20-30 per cent more, still a bargain. (Phone 02-248411, 03-292922 or 04-641162.)

Next in line should be Italy, cheaper than Switzerland or Austria. No prices were available. The best place is probably Breuil-Cervinia, which is the southern side of the Matterhorn, though I prefer Zermatt, with its access to the 4,000-metre high Little Matterhorn, though it is more expensive. Carless Zermatt is a jewel among the world's ski resorts and offers unlimited possibilities for every category of skier.

Our next choice after Italy would be Austria, with the Gasteiner Valley as my personal recommendation. There are ski runs for everyone, from beginner to advanced. Its greatest attraction is the thermal



The St. Moritz region.

(Werner Braun)

High altitude fun

Rumania, Italy, Austria, Switzerland and France all have much to offer the sabra skier, reports Werner Braun.

swimming pool and whirlpool baths at Badgastein, for relaxing your overstrained muscles. Austrian Airlines has information on package deals.

Finally we come to Switzerland, unsurpassed for its skiing. Logos, Swissair's agent in Tel Aviv, can help you plan your trip. (Call 03-655690.) Highest ratings go to Zermatt and St. Moritz, but the latter has the edge because of the versatility and sheer extent of its resort. Just consider: highest ski altitude 3,300 m. (Corvatsch), 11 funicular railways and cable cars, 52 ski lifts, 380 kilometres of marked ski runs, etc.

This last item gives one pause. It can get crowded on a nice weekend and there are bottlenecks at some of the more popular lifts. You might do better at a less glorious but quieter resort, such as e.g. Bivio near the Julier pass, where everything is cheaper, there is good skiing for

intermediate ability skiers, and there is no waiting at ski lifts.

Another tip: if you have a few - hm, hm - dollars to spend, stay a week in the St. Moritz region, the farther away from the centre, the cheaper. Then take the Glacier Express and travel for seven hours through the most glorious scenery to Zermatt for another week. By the way, one week package tours to various places in Switzerland should be available from about \$1,100.

Fees vary greatly according to date and season as well as category of hotel. If you stay in a hotel, take bed and breakfast only.

Instead of going to hotels, we save a lot of money by renting a room with a kitchenette. Preparing your own hearty breakfast is easy, and can even be fun. Rooms are available from \$200 a week. But they must be booked early.

If you like company, lots of good food, lively après ski, all in organized groups, go to Club Méditerranée. Tel. 03-254206/7/8. Their service in Israel is somewhat lacklustre, their brochures are exclusively in French and no printed price information was available.

They offer package tours from \$233, but to this you must add 15 per cent twice - once for the government tax, and again for the government deposit, obviously not to be returned. The above-mentioned fee relates to Leysin/Charleston with simple accommodations and limited skiing, for beginning to intermediate skiers, though there is more sophisticated skiing not far away which is not included in the deal. This tour is mainly for singles sleeping in four-bed rooms. The price is for one week at full board; airfare is not included.

Another of their one-week package tours including everything short of ski equipment, is to Chamoniex, a supreme resort in the French Alps. Prices vary from \$236 to \$420, according to the season, January being the cheapest and February/March the most expensive. The one-week trip can be extended. I warmly recommend these trips.

To get an idea of prices for the flight alone, consider El Al's round-trip flights. A 21-day group flight to Zurich or Vienna costs \$287, the same for 30 days costs \$364 and an extended flight is \$517. (Add 15 per cent to these fares.)

Eight-day package tours to Switzerland, Austria and France, including air fare, accommodations and ski lifts, are offered by International, Tel. 02-245698. In Switzerland you can stay at Meiringen or Heiseberg for \$579 (half board) and at Lenzerheide or Valbella for \$699 (half board). In Austria, similar accommodations will cost you \$549 at Innsbruck or Igls, and at Kitzbuehl you'll pay \$519 (bed and breakfast). In France, bed and breakfast costs \$519 at Chamoniex and \$525 at Val D'Isere. For a precise calculation, deduct \$275 for the flight, add 15 per cent to the remainder, and then add the \$275 back on.

The above information is limited, of course. Travel offices can give you more detailed possibilities and prices. As for choosing the right place for you and your pocket, I will gladly help with advice and access to my vast file of ski resorts around the world - time permitting. Just phone me at 02-544251, preferably in the evening.

ADDRESSING his readership from the vantage point of the year 2010 in a book called *Odyssey Two*, Arthur C. Clarke noted that, "A fin-de-siècle philosopher had once remarked - and had roundly been denounced for his pains - that Walter Elias Disney had contributed more to genuine human happiness than all the religious teachers of history."

He and his estate also made megabucks doing so. Walt Disney's EPCOT Centre - the so-called "Experimental Prototype Community of Tomorrow" - is probably the hottest winter vacation spot in the U.S. today.

The fact that this 600-acre extravaganza proliferating under the Orlando sun, is more of a commercial advertisement for the multinational corporations and a number of PR-minded nation-states than a showcase for new technologies and modes of living hasn't kept the throngs from turning through those turnstiles.

EPCOT, which opened at the start of the decade, encases two areas: Future World and World Showcase. Future World consists of nine pavilions, each centred on a particular theme and each funded by a corporate entity eager to dazzle the great unwashed.

Bell System kicks out the jams with a geosphere called "Spaceship Earth," dedicated to the documentation, after a fashion, of the history of communication. This particular fashion generally consists of standing in a long line for a long while, stepping into a slow-moving plastic go-cart, and whisked through a labyrinth of displays combining sound, light, holographic designs and a form of primitive (I assure you that, by the standards of the next century, primitive indeed) robotics

A trip into tomorrow

Walt Disney's EPCOT Centre in Orlando, Florida is in a world of its own, writes Sheldon Teitelbaum.

the Disney people call "animatronics."

Exxon's "Universe of Energy" employs this latter system to impressive effects in its animatronic depiction of the time when fossil fuels began to form under the earth while mighty dinosaurs roamed.

General Motors' "World of Motion" documents the history of transportation. Personally, ho-hum! Who can afford a car here anyway, never mind the turbine wonder on display?

On a lighter note, Kodak wins kudos with its "Journey Into the Imagination" building which combines zaniness with a deft touch and some hands-on fun. I loved the use of scenes from old SF movies to show just how absurd some of the more popular depictions of the future were.

General Electric gets its ya yas out with a travesty called "Horizons," ostensibly depicting alternate life-styles of the future. The point being that, whether in orbit inside an adequate - seeming space-station or fathoms under the sea, these so-called community prototypes would probably deplete the remaining physical resources of this planet to achieve.

On the other side of the lake, bordering Future World, EPCOT offers "World Showcase." Again this consists of a series of pavilions depicting various aspects of the sounds and sights of other countries.

Some of the buildings, particularly China, France and Canada, offer 360 degree views that I found breathtaking. The Chinese and Japanese pavilions shied away from high-tech displays, offering folklore and cabinet displays of national treasures - ancient suits of armour, Chinese and Ming dynasty jewelry - good stuff indeed.

Other pavilions include Mexico, Great Britain, Germany and Italy. Morocco, alongside Israel, is also under construction - cous-cous comes to Florida!

Food was my favourite part of EPCOT - not, perhaps, what you'd find in Munich or Kyoto, but hearty, educational for the untrained palate and, though not Burger King, not a major monetary disaster either.

Most exhibits at EPCOT have snack bars for cheap and light refreshment. The national exhibits each have a couple of restaurants for middle and upper-tiered food budgets.

Japan offers both tempura kiku and teppanyaki dining, ranging from \$6-\$16. Germany offers standard fare in a genuine Oktoberfest ambience (I guess - I've never been outside Israel or North America) and a dining hall that is, because of the lighting and other sleight of the hand trickery, positively gargantuan. Figure on \$7 for a good hot lunch and a dark beer.

If you're loaded down with kiddies, best bet is lunch at The Land, a

kind of revolving restaurant featuring hearty and reasonable American food.

EPCOT is, of course, a hop, skip and monorail ride away from the Magic Kingdom, otherwise known as Disneyworld. Most one, two and three-day passes to EPCOT entail free entrance to the Magic Kingdom.

If you've never been to either, buy three-day passes (Adult, \$40; junior, 12-17, \$38; & child, 3-11, \$32) because there's too much to see and do in less time.

EPCOT is located off U.S. highway 192 near the intersection of the Florida Turnpike and Interstate 4. If you're driving there, I-95 will get you to Orlando.

You can bus into Orlando as well - Greyhound's regular transportation network connects to EPCOT. But you might find, as did I, that it's actually cheaper to fly in from some locations. Orlando International Airport is located about 20 miles from EPCOT and, between it and Tampa International (75 miles away), most commercial airlines can get you to within hailing distance. A round-trip from Fort Lauderdale on Greyhound is \$76 while a round-trip flight on Florida Express from Ft. Lauderdale International costs only \$58.

If you're staying at a hotel or motel within a 20-mile radius of EPCOT, Grayline buses will generally be around to shuttle you. We stayed at a Quality Inn costing \$38 per night per room.

EPCOT, meanwhile, offers a variety of specialized services guaranteed to make life a little easier. Strollers and wheelchairs are available for rental. Locker facilities are located at key points throughout the centre in the event you want to fly in for the day and dispense with hotels.

THE DAYS of Empire have been gracefully buried and now the British ought to concentrate on doing what they do best. Not only best by their own high standards but better than anyone else, anywhere. What I have in mind is league football and TV programmes of rare quality.

Add to these two elements a fine array of department stores for magnificent - and, given the plummeting rate of sterling, relatively cheap - shopping, and you have three perfect ingredients for a mid-winter holiday.

The Christmas-New Year period is traditionally a season of bright lights, snow and mince pies. But the traveller setting out to relish a slice of the best in contemporary British life also has a marvellous opportunity at this time of year to combine equal parts of football, good shopping and TV viewing.

It is a time when shopping bargains are at a premium; seasonal sales are the genuine thing. After picking the stores clean, visitors can rest their aching feet in front of the TV screen as all four British channels indulge in a hefty dose of nostalgia - some of the best classic movies and series, interspersed with interesting contemporary drama and documentaries.

But the best part of this three-pronged holiday - in my book - is certainly not spent indoors. This

Football fanatics' holiday spree

Yaron Kenan

year there is a fortunate coalescence of the Hanukkah and Christmas breaks, so a carefully constructed itinerary enables all the family to get a close-up view of another element of British life: football. Any 10-day visit could yield an exciting blend of no fewer than five matches.

Here are two suggested fixture lists in which the London-based visitor might care to indulge:

December 21 to December 30
Sat. December 22 Arsenal v Watford or QPR v Liverpool or West Ham v Southampton. Sun. December 23 Leicester v Coventry.
Wed. December 26 (Boxing Day) Tottenham v West Ham or QPR v Chelsea or Crystal Palace v Charlton. (2nd Division)
Fri. December 28 Colchester v Port Vale (4th Division)
Sat. December 29 Chelsea v Manchester United or Tottenham v Sunderland or Watford v Leicester.

December 28 (Friday) to January 10 (Thursday)
Sat. December 29 see options above
Tues. January 1 Arsenal v Tottenham or Watford v Liverpool or West Ham v QPR
Fri. January 4 Southend v Colchester (4th Division)
Sat. January 5 FA Cup third round - draw not yet made
Tues. January 8 and Wed. January 9 Cup replays of drawn matches from Saturday.

Some of the holiday fixtures are rescheduled as morning games so it may even be possible to take in two matches on one day.

I have purposely included some lower division matches in the suggested itineraries. A train journey to a ground 60 or 90 minutes away from central London provides a different and highly intriguing insight into parts of English society not normally encountered by the visitor.

For those interested in expanding their interlude into a full-scale sports bonanza there are also plenty of other activities at that time of year. They include two attractive interna-

tional competitions - the Phillips World Club Basketball Tourney at Crystal Palace in which Israel's own perennial champions Maccabi Tel Aviv are regular participants, and more often than not triumphant too, and the world Doubles Tennis Tournament at the Albert Hall. There is a feast of steepchase horseracing with a meeting almost every day within striking distance of the capital.

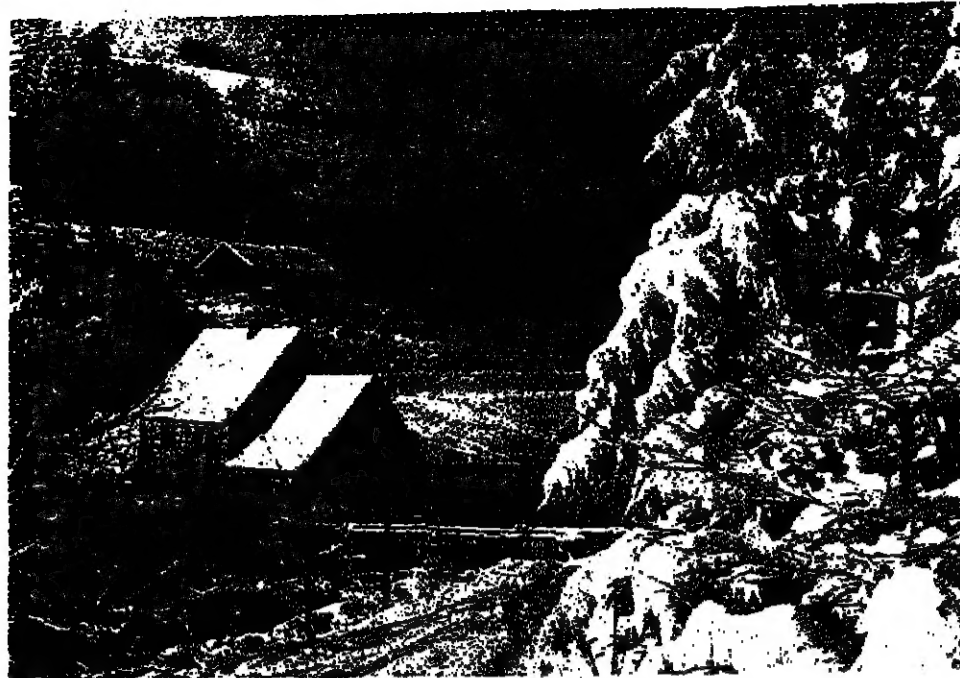
One word of warning: public transport, which is normally excellent in the heart of London is extremely spasmodic or non-existent on the main holidays - Christmas, Boxing Day and New Year's Day, so be prepared to take taxis for any outing arranged on those days.

Any of the many weekly entertainment guides such as *Timeout* will offer other useful information on kick-off times and how to reach the grounds by public transport.

British Airways or El Al group fares for the winter season are \$298 to London, while Arkia, which flies twice weekly to Gatwick, costs \$249. Also, most of the major travel agencies should be offering attractive package deals, and Dieneshaus of Tel Aviv and Ramat Hasharon are putting together a good soccer tour package.

The Winter Travel and Export and Export Services sections were edited by Amy Levinson.

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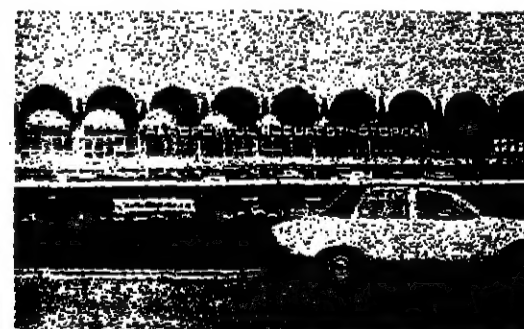


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MACABEE DEAN holds a mini-poll on the problem of tax evasion Government itself blamed for black capital

TEL AVIV. — The government is the main culprit — at least indirectly — in the creation of huge amounts of "black capital," both here and abroad.

This opinion was voiced several times yesterday during a mini-poll among the business community on the causes of the phenomenon, its extent and possible ways of fighting it. As usual, all those questioned were promised anonymity, so they could answer freely.

The government's blame was felt to lie in several areas. The main one was exorbitant taxes. A married man, with two children and a non-working wife, one businessman said, can easily reach the 60 per cent income tax bracket. This means that for every shekel he earns 60 per cent goes to the government, 40 per cent to him. Yet his total take-home pay is so low that he lives below what is considered the poverty line in the U.S., which is about \$300 a month.

The result is that the government harms itself in two ways: first, honest persons don't make an effort to increase their income, since the more they produce, the more some body else has.

The alternative, of course, is to work hard and to take home the entire 100 per cent by not paying taxes.

"I'm not sure that the country doesn't benefit more from the hard productive worker, who cheats on his taxes, than from the worker who just throws up his hands in disgust," he said.

Blame was also showered on the government for another reason. There is evidently a small percentage of persons who feel that if they pay honest taxes, the government's civil service will only become more bloated. "Every day we hear stories about the government cutting its budget. There is a lot of talk, and little cutting. And one very side one sees government waste, government inefficiency, bureaucratic rudeness. And all this grows and flourishes on our tax money,"

Another person blamed much of tax cheating on inflation and the complicated and nerve-racking efforts required to keep honest books. "What person wants to kill himself because the government let the situation get out of control?" he asked.

How wide-spread is the income (and other tax) cheating phenomenon and the creating of black capital? Very. One person said he didn't know of anybody who was not guilty, "even if only a little bit."

Another said: "I wouldn't call those persons, who don't have an opportunity to cheat honest. First, let's give them the chance; then we'll see

how honest they are. The self-employed are no more guilty than anyone else. They are simply the target of socialist elements."

What became apparent yesterday was that income tax cheating was an accepted norm in Israel. Nobody thought there was anything wrong in "cheating a little." But most persons were against overdoing it.

"Let's face it," one man put it, "cheating on income tax is another aspect of the permissive society. It's the 'in' thing to do."

In such an atmosphere, many honest tax payers become demoralized and decide to join the majority.

What is the size of black capital? By its very nature, nobody can know, but some studies show that it must be about 15 per cent of the Gross National Product (GNP). The Histadrut once estimated it at 33 per cent of the GNP.

One person said: "Take any number from one to ten, multiply it by a billion, and you've got the correct answer." Another said that there was between \$2 billion and \$8b. stashed away under floor tiles or in bank safety deposit boxes. He also thought that there must be \$5b. to \$6b. earning interest in foreign bank accounts.

Can the black capital phenomenon be wiped out?

Nobody is really trying to do so, one person said. The entire current publicity campaign is just a "red herring" to divert attention from the real problems facing the country.

For example, there is a lot of talk about cutting the national budget by billions of dollars. But these sums have only been "earmarked," not really cut. And "in Israel there is a big difference between earmarking something and taking actual steps."

But another thought that the campaign was for real. "We've reached such a critical state regarding our foreign debt that we have to do something."

But few thought that the problem could be solved. Even in the Iron Curtain countries, where they have secret police, there are black markets in currencies, was a view frequently expressed.

Nevertheless, "even if the problem can't be solved, at least it can be drastically reduced," some people said.

This could be done in several ways. First, by cancelling food subsidies, so that those who had black capital "would at least have to pay the full price for the bread they eat."

Several persons called for reducing income taxes to a maximum of 30 per cent. Above this figure the public would spend more time figuring out how to duck paying tax than in working to produce more. "Moreov-

er, if everybody paid an honest 30 per cent, the government would probably increase its income, not reduce it," it was held.

A one-time amnesty was also suggested. "Let's give all those who want to become honest again an opportunity." After that there should be a severe crackdown on the others.

Here, the matter was one of paying those who worked in the income tax collection department a decent wage. "None of them can finish the month themselves, so they don't even try to work hard. If they were paid a decent wage, they would turn in twice as much work."

A "decent wage" was considered the same as an independent income tax consultant made in private practice — roughly twice as much as a civil servant. "If the civil servant was paid this amount, the service would attract better men, who could cope on equal terms with the private income tax consultants," it was held.

The catch here was that the government knew that such a wage hike would initiate a wave of wage demands by other civil servants. The end result would be that the already bloated civil service would cost twice as much as at present.

Another suggestion was to audit every tenth set of books; and if there were dishonest entries to throw the culprits into jail, "like they do in the U.S. The Israel government should stop its practice of letting income tax evaders bargain their way out."

Should safe deposit boxes be

opened? "Of course, but only if a judge signs a search warrant. The same holds true for searching under floor tiles."

One person did not think this approach would be successful. "All safety deposit boxes will be emptied a week before the government takes any legal steps." He divided black capital into three major parts.

There are those who keep it in Israel; who took it abroad; and those who sent or took it abroad and brought it back legally under the guise of a legitimate investment. This effectively launders the black capital and this money henceforth pays taxes."

He thought this might be a good solution for those who wanted to turn honest.

Another suggestion was for an annual declaration of capital. "Our leading government officials should do this, including not only Knesset members, but all senior civil servants," the man said.

Moreover, the government should demand that anyone who sold it goods, or bid for tenders, should have a file with the income tax department. "And no Israeli should be allowed to go abroad unless he has a file in the income tax department," he added.

But the bottom line was that few of those questioned thought that any of these measures would be carried out.

"The government simply doesn't have the manpower to do any of these things."

U.S. consumer prices rise slowly in October

WASHINGTON (Reuters). — Inflation in the U.S. remained moderate in October, with the consumer prices rising 0.4 per cent for the second consecutive month. The Labour Department said yesterday.

However, in a separate report, the Commerce Department provided further evidence that the U.S. economy was slowing down sharply. It said orders for durable goods fell 4.1 per cent in October, the second consecutive monthly decline.

The durable goods figure, which includes cars and home appliances, is considered by experts to be a key indicator of future economic behaviour.

The Commerce Department on Tuesday reported a sharp drop in the growth of the Gross National Product in the third quarter, as well as falls in company profits and house building activity.

The latest price news put inflation so far this year at an annual rate of 4.2 per cent, a level most economists expect to continue for some time.

Electric Corp. staff to give back sums paid in error

By DAVID RUDGE
Jerusalem Post Reporter
HAIFA. — Israel Electric Corporation employees have agreed to take an average \$37,000 cut in their November salaries after apparently having been overpaid the previous two months. The Jerusalem Post was told yesterday.

But the works committee is refusing to cancel its labour dispute, which it declared last week in response to a government demand that workers return part of the recent pay rise, until it has checked all the facts and figures.

The employees received a parity bonus in their September and October salaries. The rise resulted from the back-to-work agreement that ended their week-long strike in July.

The Treasury, however, said the IEC employees had received too much money because the bonus had been applied to their gross salary which includes increments, instead of their basic wages.

Agreement over the \$37,000 deduction was reached during a meeting on Monday night between the representatives of the works committee, the IEC management, the Treasury and the Energy Ministry.

Afterwards Energy Minister Moshe Shahal said he hoped the agreement would herald a new chapter in labour relations within the IEC.

But works committee chairman Yoram Obracovich told The Post last night that there were still several areas of disagreement and the committee was not prepared to cancel its labour dispute.

One of the bones of contention is the Energy Minister's intention to scrap the privilege of unlimited free electricity, which all IEC workers and pensioners enjoy. Obracovich stressed that they would not give up this privilege under any circumstances.

CUSTOMER. — Saudi Arabia is Switzerland's most important export market outside the OECD countries. Last year, Swiss goods worth \$680 million were exported to the kingdom.

Helmets for export

TEL AVIV. — Ireland and an unidentified West African country have ordered Israel-made helmets.

The helmets, made of composite materials in accordance with Israel Defence Forces specifications, will be produced by Rabinex Industries at their new plant in Beit Shean, a company spokesman said. Rabinex bought the production line from Tama Plastics in Mishmar Ha'emek and expects to enlarge that operation, increasing the number of employees from the current 40 to about 100.

Post Defence Reporter
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DOWN
1. Japanese robe, 2. Word expressive of grief, 3. Over there, 4. Witty answer, 5. Snippled fellow, 6. Storemen, 7. Cloth for protecting furniture, 8. Balloon, spring flower, 9. Elbow (anag.), 10. Exhaust, 11. Unrevealed, 12. Extremely beautiful, 13. Brought up, 14. Relate minutely, 15. Bracken, 16. Prophetic sign.



The police yesterday issued this photograph to encourage property owners to put identifying marks on their belongings. The tape radio was stolen from a Kiryat Shmona youth centre and turned up recently in a raid on the premises of a known fence in the north. The thieves had tried to remove the engraved identification, but police lab experts were able to identify the property and return it to its owners. (Police photo)

Package deal won't affect exchange rate insurance

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Exporters now signing agreements with customers for sales in 1985 need not worry about chances that their exchange rate insurance may be cancelled or reduced as a result of the package deal or other government austerity schemes.

This was stated yesterday by Yoram Bilovsky, head of the Ministry of Industry and Trade's financing authority. He said that negotiations on the insurance scheme, held annually, had been postponed by the package deal discussions. Nevertheless, he added, exporters can proceed with their pricing schedules on the assumption that exporters' exchange rate insurance will continue in operation next year.

The insurance programme relieves exporters of the risk of their profits falling as a result of fluctuations in the exchange rates of the currencies involved in their export activity.

Bilovsky noted that the payment procedure by the ministry's Foreign Trade Risk Underwriting Company was changed last April. Instead of basing its payments on exporters' documents, it is now doing so on the basis of exporters' collections from their overseas customers.

"Since the change was instituted, exporters have been bringing their revenues into the country much sooner than before," Bilovsky said.

New hotel for Netanya

NETANYA. — A luxury hotel, the Cliff Mediterranean, will soon be built in the hotel section of Netanya, behind the city's central square. The building will have 14 floors, 11 of which will contain 145 apartments. The rest of the building will be taken up with the entrance floor, a service and shop floor, halls, a swimming pool and a parking area.

ENTERTAINMENT

EDUCATIONAL:
8.15 School Broadcasts 15.00 Betty and Lilith 15.30 Betty and Lilith 16.00 This is it — live youth magazine 17.00 A New Evening — live magazine

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMES:
17.30 We were also there — about the Jewish heroes of the Second World War 18.00 Cartoon

ARABIC-LANGUAGE PROGRAMMES:
18.30 News roundup 18.32 Fried in Need 19.00 Meeting — current affairs 19.30 News

HEBREW PROGRAMMES resume at 20.00 with a news roundup 20.02 Match of the Week 20.30 Movie Time — weekly cinema magazine 21.00 Mafet Newswatch 21.30 Allegro — music quiz 22.20 The Fourth Arm: Part 5 of a 12-part suspense serial about events of the Second World War. Starring Philip Latham, Paul Shelley and Neil Stacy

23.10 Reggie — new American comedy series starring Richard Mulligan; Mark's Gritted 23.35 News

JORDAN TV (unofficial):
17.30 Cartoons 17.30 (JTV 3) Mecarosi 18.00 French Hour 19.30 News in Hebrew 20.00 News in Arabic 20.30 The Hello Goodbye Man 21.10 Sherlock Holmes 22.00 News in English 22.15 Feature film

MIDDLE EAST TV (from T.A. north):
13.00 Westbook Hospital 13.30 Another Life 14.00 700 Club 14.30 Shape-Up 15.00 Afternoon Movie 16.30 Spiderman 17.00 Poppy 17.30 Flying House 18.00 Bonanza 19.00 Hardcastle & McCormick 20.00 Another Life 20.30 News 21.00 That's Hollywood 21.30 60 Minutes 22.30 Paper Chase 23.30 700 Club 24.00 News Update 00.30 Evidentiary

ON THE AIR
Voice of Music
6.02 Musical Clock
7.07 Schubert: March; Kodaly: 2 Movements from Hary Janos; Steibelt: Intermezzo; Poulenc: Les Biches, overture; Grieg: Anitra's Dance
7.30 Elgar: King Arthur (Bournemouth); Wolf: Faustian Suite; Vaughan-Williams: Fantasy on Tunes from Sussex; Elgar: The Planets
9.30 Franker: Symphonies for Royal Feasts; Mozart: Concertone for 2 Violins, K.190 (Zukerman, Stern); Stanford: Clarinet Concerto; Poulenc: Cylindre et le chevreuil; Mendelssohn: First Walpurgis Night
12.00 An Hour with pianist Yehudi Yagan 13.05 Baz: The Garden of Fand; Bartok: Rhapsody No. 2; Roy Harris: Folk Song Symphony; Yitzhak Perlman plays works by Kreisler
15.00 Music Vision — Samuel Adler: Xenia, dialogue for Organ and Percussions, to be played three times
16.30 Youth Programme — Ballet Music 17.30 Vera Waldman, violin; Emanuel Kravinsky, piano — Bach: Sonata in B minor; Abel: Elvira's 3 Poems; Clara Schumann: 3 Romances, Op. 22; Brahms: Sonata No. 2, Op. 10
18.00 Felix Mendelssohn: Portrait — 6/The Resurrection of the St. Matthew's Passion (repeat)

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6.10 Morning Sounds
6.30 University on the Air
7.07/7.07 — with Alex Anstis
8.05 Morning Newswatch
9.05 Right Now — with Rafi Roshel
10.05 Four in the Afternoon
10.15 Evening News
10.45 Economics Magazine
10.55 Music Today — music magazine
11.05 Israeli Hit Parade
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By PINHAS LANDAU
Post Finance Reporter
TEL AVIV. — The reduction in interest rates by 1.5 to 2.5 per cent, announced by the Bank of Israel and the commercial banks this Monday, will go into effect today. It will be the second reduction in interest rates since the package deal began, almost three weeks ago.

The mechanism for effecting changes in the rates banks collect from and pay to their customers now works quite smoothly. After informal discussions between Deputy Finance Minister Adi Amora and senior officials at the Treasury and the Bank of Israel, with some input from the heads of the big banks, the decision is made by how much to raise or lower rates.

The governor of the central bank and the head of its monetary department then call in the heads of the commercial banks to the Bank of Israel offices in Tel Aviv (either separately or together, depending on how much resistance they expect). They then tell them that the central bank is changing (in the current case, lowering) the rates of interest it charges to the commercial banks for what are known as "monetary loans." These are loans made available through the "credit window" of the central bank, to help ease the liquidity problems of the commercials.

They then say that they "hope," or "expect" the given bank or banks they are meeting with "to take into account the changes that have been made" in fixing their own interest

Bank interest rates lower from today

The Bank of Israel then announces that it does not control or determine the level of interest rates in the economy, and the commercials — who find themselves charged with "collusion" and "cartelization" — announce that they are merely falling into line with the wishes of the central bank.

This week's decline in rates was, in fact, a simple follow-up to the 5-6 per cent fall that came as part of the initial package deal terms. It was agreed then that a review would take place after two weeks.

In practice, things have gone even better than anyone had dared hope. The slowdown in the devaluation of the shekel, the insistence of the Bank of Israel on high interest rates (from 16.5 per cent) for short-term shekel deposits, and the expectation that inflation would decline, at least in the three-month period of the package deal, all worked together. They persuaded people to move money from *patam* and other dollar-linked investments to *tapas* and *pukam* short-term shekel deposits.

Figures for the week ending November 14 (which are the latest available) show that \$60 million moved out of *patam* current and deposit accounts.

As a result the banking system

found itself with no liquidity problems for the first time in many months. In fact, until they transferred the monthly VAT payments on the 18th-19th of the month, the banks had large liquidity surpluses overall.

Even now, after the VAT has been transferred, the liquidity deficit of the system is in the order of \$10-15 billion, which is far less than in the last six months. This improvement in their liquidity goes a long way to compensate the banks for the narrow profit margins they had to agree to as part of the package deal, and also explains their determined support of the new arrangements. They are praying for the trend to persist, so that they can lower their rates further, possibly in early December, and thus keep the downward spiral going.

What they are afraid of, is the opposite development. If, for any reason, the wheel turns and the public begins to move back from shekels to dollars and dollar-linked assets, the process will be thrown into reverse, and rates will be forced upward very sharply.

The new interest rate structure is based on the 1.5 per cent reduction in the prime lending rate banks charge on loans to their best custom-

ers, and a slightly larger fall in the penalty rates on borrowing, beyond authorized lines of credit.

An interesting feature to emerge regarding the rates the banks pay for deposits is that, for the first time in many years in Israel (possibly the first time ever), there is a "negative yield curve."

This means that the yield paid for money borrowed from depositors by the banks declines as the period of deposit grows longer, rather than rising, as is usually the case.

The rationale for this is precisely that expectation of further cuts in rates in the near future that was noted above. If rates in one month's time are indeed expected to be lower than today's, then the interest paid for one week will be higher than for one month — and this is the situation that has emerged.

DEFENCE

(Continued from Page One)

ministry was the only one to execute September's decision to cut the state budget — an argument that the Treasury officials half-accepted (see story above).

Nevertheless, the Treasury insisted that the Defence Ministry has at its disposal a large amount of resources and that it is only natural to cut from them.

According to the officials, there is about \$2.7b. allocated to the Defence Ministry net of debt repayments, and foreign aid financed purchases. To this figure there should be added some \$800m. put at the ministry's disposal from active reserve duty days, sales of used equipment and money from American foreign aid not linked to purchases abroad.

In addition, the officials said one should add to these sums the interest payments Israel has to pay for loans taken in the past for defence purposes. These payments amounted to over \$800m. in 1984.

According to reliable government sources, Rabin has decided to go ahead with the Lavi military aircraft project. The sources added that the Treasury and the cabinet will not oppose him on this issue, although nobody is happy with the project and the green light will be given as the "lesser evil."

The sources indicated that until now some \$700m. to \$800m. have been invested in the Lavi and the feeling is that there is no way to reverse the situation.

In addition, Rabin thinks the U.S. administration will not accept that the \$250m. it has granted to develop the aircraft should be used for other purposes.

Bank of Israel exchange rates

November 21, 1984	IS
U.S. dollar	558.63
British sterling	691.98
German mark	—
French franc	60.546
Dutch guilder	164.63
Swiss franc	224.62
Swedish krona	64.803
Norwegian krone	63.917
Danish krone	51.392
Finnish mark	88.883
Canadian dollar	423.96
Australian dollar	477.91
South African rand	312.47
Belgian franc (10)	92.187
Austrian schilling (10)	264.32
Italian lire (1000)	299.16
Japanese yen (100)	228.43
Irish pound	577.20
Spanish peseta (100)	331.13
Jordanian dinar	1385.4
Lebanese lira	72.790
Egyptian pound	424.56

FOREIGN CURRENCY	
INTERBANK SPOT RATES	
US\$	1.27781/235
DM	3.01203/0.40
Swiss FR	3.40103/4030
Swiss FR	2.49452/4965
Belgian Cn	60.610/60.63
French FR	9.24405/2460
Italian Lire	1867.101/867.30
Yen	244.607/244.75
US\$	0.9996/1.0001

GOLD & SILVER	
FORWARD RATES	
1 month	1.27781/235
3 months	1.27781/235
6 months	1.27781/235

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE	
D.J. Avg.	1201.52 +0.41
Transport	1831.289 +3.29
Utilities	143.60 +0.41
Volume	82,322,600

D.J. LIST	
Alcoa	35 1/4 +1/4
Alcoa Chem.	34 1/4 +1/4
Amer. Brnd	61 -1/4
Amer. Can	48 1/4 +1/4
Amer. Exp	36 1/4 +1/4
Amer. T. & T.	18 1/4 +1/4
Beck Steel	47 +1/4
East Kodak	74 1/4 +1/4
Exxon	43 1/4 +1/4
Gen. Elect.	57 1/4 +1/4
Gen. Food	55 1/4 +1/4
Gen. Motors	74 1/4 +1/4
Goodyear	23 1/4 +1/4
Int'l Bus.	120 1/4 +1/4
Int'l Harv.	8 +1/4
Int'l Paper	51 +1/4
Merck	88 1/4 +1/4
Minnesota Mining	80 1/4 +1/4
Nichol	11 +1/4
Owens	36 1/4 +1/4
Procter Gam.	58 +1/4
Chevron	33 1/4 +1/4
Seam	31 1/4 +1/4
Texaco	34 1/4 +1/4
Union Carb.	39 1/4 +1/4
United Tech.	36 +1/4

Shares make further progress

MARKET COMMENT

By PINHAS LANDAU

Shares and bonds continued to press ahead yesterday, but progress was slower than on Tuesday. Volume remained low.

The share market showed another gain, this time of some 2.4 per cent. overall. The main contribution came from the "arrangement" bank index, which rose 2.62 per cent.

The non-bank index put on only 1.69 per cent. Industrials moved ahead, in line with the general index, but investment companies only managed a gain of less than one per cent.

Oil shares were the biggest winner of the day, with a jump of almost 7 per cent. The announcement of the entry of Armand Hammer, the octogenarian boss of Occidental Petroleum, into oil exploration in this country, may well be giving a major boost to this industry. In any event, the oil share index, at 270, is at the same nominal value as in the month of March, so that its real erosion has been enormous. The losses of the oil exploration companies and the stream of announcements of dry wells has no doubt contributed to this result.

The volume in the share market, at \$535 million, was slightly better than on the previous day, but still very low. In contrast to Tuesday's trading, the bank shares of the "arrangement" returned to claim the major part of the turnover, taking \$150 million. In other words, the bank shares trades \$900,000 and the "free" share market managed less than \$800,000.

Within this admittedly meaning-

less quantity of activity, the advance/decline ratio fell to 3:1 and the sharp rises to sharp falls to 6:1. These still reflect a strong uptrend, but are nevertheless lower than Tuesday's statistics.

Bonds, too, showed rises of a smaller magnitude than on the day before, with volume just below \$1.5 billion.

Announcements:
Mar-Lez Building. Development and Investments, referring to its previous announcement from July 30 of this year, detailed its role in the new Central Bus Station project in Tel Aviv. It noted that the rights acquired by the Hefziba building company through a contract with the liquidator of the Kikar Levisky Company, for the bus station project will be about 40 per cent. The total price paid by all the companies involved in the purchase from the liquidator is \$5m., and the total investment expected to be required for completion of the project is in the order of \$30m. At this stage, Mar-Lez has no idea as to a starting date for building.

Taya has notified the exchange that on November 20 it bought, off the floor, 20 million of its IS3 shares from the Leumi Pz group of mutual

funds. The purchase was made by Taya's wholly-owned subsidiary, BRH, at a price of 2.240 and for a total sum of \$1449 million. The shares in question represent 42.5 per cent of the company's equity and 22.5 per cent of the voting rights.

MARKET STATISTICS

Indices	
General Share Index	556.95 +2.40%
Non-bank Index	382.55 +1.69%
Arrangement	678.65 +2.62%
Industrial	447.74 +2.39%
Bond Index	—

Turnovers	
Shares	15,935.6m.
Bonds	151,494.2m.
Totals	167,429.8m.
Advances	265
Declines	85
of which 5% +	10
of which 5% -	16
"Buyers only"	11
"Sellers only"	3

Bond market trends	
4% fully-linked	Rises to 2.5%
3% fully-linked	Mixed to 2%
80% linked	Mixed
90% linked	Rises to 2%
Double-option	Rises to 0.5-2%
Dollar-linked	Rises to 2.5%

Most Active Shares	
Hapoalim	14650 151.26m. +375
IDB	21560 181.03m. +230
Leumi	9351 15 67.0m. +271

GANDHI'S VOW. — In the first major economic decision of his three-week-old administration, Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi has slashed import duty on computers as part of his vow to take India into the 21st century.

Tel Aviv Stock Exchange daily price quotations

Company	Price	Volume	% Change
Commercial Banks			
OHI	5800	9	n.c.
Maritime I	2335	154	n.c.
Maritime S	632	95	n.c.
Gen. non-arr	5445	38	+10.0
N. Amer. S	2653	41	+1.9
N. Amer. S	1640	52	+1.6
N. Am. op 1	3411	409	n.c.
Danco I	450	126	+3.0
Danco S	90	857	n.c.
Danco 2	241	77	+10.6
Firstst	700	1662	+4.5
Firstst S	721	9991	+10.1
Commercial Banks (part of "arrangement")			
IDB	21560	478	+2.0
IDB S	22600	6	+1.3
IDB P A	139000	4	n.c.
Union B	16100	295	+3.5
Discount B	27500	24	+2.0
Discount A	27500	165	+3.1
Dis. B. Cn	3000	52	+4.0
Mizrahi	8900	537	+2.8
Mizrahi S	8910	16	+2.4
Mizrahi Cn	4052	35	+8
Hapoalim P	19800	1	+10.0
Hapoalim S	14650	861	+2.6
Hapoalim B	14650	69	+2.8
Hap. Cn S	55500	5	+2.2
Gen. I A	38200	55	+4.7
Gen. I B	91000	1	n.c.
Gen. I C	36400	1	n.c.
Gen. I D	29000	1	n.c.
Gen. I E	1940	10	+9.6
Leumi I	9531	716	+3.0
Leumi S	12750	1	+4.0
Leumi Cn	3590	130	n.c.
Fin. Trade	13200	1	+1.5
Fin. Trade S	6710	155	n.c.
Mortgage Banks			
Admon. I	1601	1	n.c.
Gen. Mort I	1302	10	-1.1
Gen. Mort B	1302	9	-1.1
Polymort	1601	1	n.c.
Carmel deb	750	98	+1.4
Binyan	864	8	n.c.
Dev. Mort	679	70	+2.9
Mizrahi	1400	18	n.c.
Independence	950	82	+3.0
Telaport P	1800	33	n.c.
Telaport B	1696	66	+5.3
Telaport C	1767	67	+4.0
Telaport D	910	327	+1.2
Jaysour I	259	53	+7.9
Jaysour S	189	2	+5.3
Jaysour op	189	3	-5.2
Mecar I	679	98	n.c.
Financial Institutions			
Shitot	173	455	+3.3
Shitot S	1011	157	+3.5
Agri. A	20000	1	n.c.
Agri. C	49831	1	+10.0
Leumi Ind	955	25	+4.0
Leumi Ind B	3000	1	n.c.
Ind Dev I	15000	1	n.c.
Ind Dev C	15000	1	n.c.
Ind D C C	70000	1	n.c.
Ind D C C	70000	1	n.c.
Ind D D	6452	1	n.c.
Ind D D D	24095	1	n.c.
Contractor	1080	375	n.c.
Tourism	51500	1	n.c.
Clal I. O. 1	636	11	+2.0
Clal I. O. 2	331	15	+2.0
Clal I. deb	3400	29	+1.1
Insurance			
Aryeh op	520	100	-5.5
Aryeh S	280	1	-6.0
A. sub deb	11400	2	n.c.
InterGen I	1011	157	+3.5
InterGen S	597	30	n.c.
Reimort I	722	1	-3.0
Reimort S	260	20	+4.0
Hadar I	410	6	n.c.
Hadar S	162	182	+1.3
Phoenix I	797	2	-5.0
Phoenix S	2807	27	+5.0
Hemdat I	2720	22	+7.7
Hemdat S	1940	1	n.c.
Hamish op	2640	40	+6.1
Yarden I	177	243	+9.0
Yarden S	91	108	+1.7
Memorals I	5900	10	+3.5
Memorals S	1100	10	+7.9
Sahar I	546	1	-2.7
Zur I	615	158	n.c.
Zion H I	1101	47	+6.3
Zion H S	399	143	+2.1
Trade & Services			
Center Gam I	627	34	n.c.
Center Gam S	168	300	+6.3
Center Gam op	60	181	+9.1
Mer. Exa	770	50	+2.7
Mer. Exp	585	30	+3.5
Gen. I	no trading		
Gen. I S	no trading		
Clal Trade	403	47	+5.2
Crystal I	227	8	+9.0
Lapac I	5700	1	-5.0
Lapac S	1260	56	+10.0
Superst 2	3275	12	+3.2
Superst B 10	1300	599	+2.6
Services			
Delek I	3315	126	n.c.
Delek S	2803	n.o.i.	-5.0
Delek op	1145	5	-4.4
Op. 0.1	1201	173	+3.5
Op. 0.2	735	251	-2.0
Op. 0.3	2000	1	n.c.
Op. 0.4	1001	1	n.c.
Op. 0.5	1291	10	+3.4
Op. 0.6	552	n.o.i.	-5.0
Op. 0.7	677	200	+16.3
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Ari Rath
Editor and
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Madness without method

BUDGET-CUTTING may be a necessary evil, but the ordeal suffered by the local authorities seems excessive. The procedure has become familiar. The Treasury reduces allocations. The municipalities fail to cut their expenditure, take high-cost loans at the bank and build up a heavy debt.

Before long they cannot pay wages on time. Their employees declare a strike, the mayors come banging on the doors of the Interior Ministry – and extract money from the state coffers that they were not supposed to have.

It does not always go that way. Three-quarters of the 220 local authorities manage to reduce budgets without causing a crisis. And the confrontations, when they occur, mostly end with a compromise. Economies are agreed to in return for a cash advance.

But it is a clumsy and damaging procedure. Moreover the minority of local authorities which overspend grossly, to the point of needing a rescue operation, include some of the biggest – notably Tel Aviv and Haifa. Is this the way to run Israel's local administration?

The Sanbar committee on local government thinks not. The fault, it says, lies in administrative confusion. The local authorities are autonomous bodies, but do not have financial autonomy; the Treasury holds the purse-strings. No organization will weigh the cost-benefit factors of a project seriously when someone else picks up the bill.

At the moment city halls collect only 30 per cent of their revenue locally, the rest comes from central government. The latter is supposed to be a fixed sum, but it never is. Inflation erodes its value, the Accountant-General delays making transfers, and mayors never know how much they are getting, or when (the "when" is especially important when inflation approaches one per cent a day).

This is in fact the way the Finance Ministry cuts its outlays in general and not only with the local authorities. The politicians cannot agree on budgetary economies, so Treasury officials have no option but to scrape and pare – which may explain why the government is dragging its feet over the Sanbar committee recommendations. The committee was appointed eight years ago, before Menachem Begin's Likud administration came to power.

It reported – after a careful investigation – three years ago, in June 1981. A ministerial committee is still studying the committee's conclusions. Not that the government disagrees with them, it is just scared of making the necessary decisions.

The committee recommends that the government make up its mind how much finance the local authorities need over the coming years and put that total at their disposal, in the sums agreed and on the stipulated dates. Needless to say, the whole state budget should be organized that way. The difficulty in every case is to get agreement over the amounts to be allocated.

Another recommendation of the Sanbar committee calls for a clearer division of authority between central and local government, also within local government between the mayor and the council. Since 1975 the mayor is elected separately, but his functions have not been defined afresh. This invites deadlock between mayor and council over ticklish matters like budget-cutting.

The mayor should be the executive arm, the council should be the legislative arm. Authority has to be split accordingly. The job of the council is to make by-laws, confirm budgets, fix manpower totals, exercise public accounting and control procedures; and that is enough. The job of the mayor is to govern, says the Sanbar Committee.

The government has a job as well – to let the mayor do the governing, by providing him with the necessary fiscal autonomy. If each local authority knows exactly what its income is and knows that it cannot increase that sum except out of its own resources, it will presumably budget more intelligently and more responsibly than is the case today.

LABOUR SANCTIONS

(Continued from Page One)

Rejection of Kassar's demand, Modat argued that the government and the unions had not agreed on payment of the supplement before the freeze went into effect. The clause in the framework agreement providing for payment after negotiations with the individual unions did not constitute a contract, as defined in the package deal, he said.

Kassar rejected Modat's argument, saying that it had been accepted "for dozens of years" that the framework agreement was the one that counted. "No one can say that the signature of the Histadrut is not binding on all the unions," he said.

Civil Servants Union secretary Reuven Ben-Ami said that many workers in the public service had their own specific problems, which were bound to come up once industrial unrest began.

ARAFAT-PNC

(Continued from Page One)

existing committee, with a view to averting conflict between Arafat loyalists and opponents.

Arafat, sources said, is to call an emergency meeting of the Fatah central committee this morning to discuss the compromise before the PNC session gets underway.

The PNC, whose session has been delayed because of inter-Palestinian rifts, has a total of 564 members, but 180 living on the Israeli-administered West Bank are barred from travelling.

TERRORIST

(Continued from Page One)

fired from jobs in Israel, they will go back to work in agriculture.

Rafael Eitan (Tehiya) asked Goren if workers from the territories do not plan to look for work abroad. Goren replied that they do not seem keen on going abroad in search for work, and, in fact, the number of arrivals has recently exceeded the departures.

Binyamin Ben-Eliezer (Yahad) said action must be taken against stone-throwers and agitators, but by the defence forces, not Rabbi Moshe Levinger. He demanded that Levinger's protest vigil outside the Deheisha refugee camp be terminated.

"I don't understand why Levinger is allowed to be there, it's provocation," Ben-Eliezer said. He charged the government with having no long-range policy in the territories.

Yossi Sarid (Citizens' Rights Movement) asked whether it was true that 1,300 books were banned for marketing in the territories and whether he could get a list of the censored books.

Goren said there was no list, but the banned books include *The Merchant of Venice* – not Shakespeare's play but an Arab version – and a book by Yigal Allon, sold in the territories with an anti-Israeli prologue by an Arab writer.

The decline of an alliance

By DAVID BERNSTEIN

ONE OF ISRAEL'S more improbable and ill-conceived alliances, the one with the Christians in Lebanon, has been dying a slow death ever since the Sabra and Shatilla massacres in September 1982 brought to a head the simmering public revulsion at Israel's involvement in the blood-soaked politics of its northern neighbour.

The link with the Lebanese Christians, or more specifically with the Phalange-dominated Lebanese Forces militia, was forged in the late 1970s and carefully nurtured until the 1982 invasion of Lebanon as the covert element in a two-pronged Israeli policy. The overt element was the relationship with Maj. Sa'ad Haddad and his Christian militia in the extreme south of the country.

This remained the case until the potential of the Phalange alliance fired then defence minister Ariel Sharon's imagination and set in motion the grand design of obliterating the PLO's power based in the south, and instituting a new political equilibrium in which the Phalange would be predominant and in a position to bring Lebanon into a "triangle of peace" with Israel and Egypt.

It is highly unlikely that this grandiose scheme was ever feasible without ending Syria's physical presence in Lebanon and converting that country into a virtual Israeli protectorate to prevent the Syrians from re-establishing their dominant role there.

And it became patently impossible once Israel, revolted by what had happened at Sabra and Shatilla, made it known that it could not stomach the kind of involvement in Lebanese politics essential if Sharon's dream was to be realized.

THE CHRISTIANS received the message early on, driving President Amin Jemayel to seek a more deeply committed ally in his bid to establish his hold over his rapidly disintegrating country. He turned first to the Americans, and when they failed him early this year after their own unrealistic illusions about Lebanon were punctured, to Syria – the

perennial powerbroker in the country that had never ceased to be, for the rulers in Damascus, part and parcel of Greater Syria.

Jemayel did not at first carry the entire Christian community along with him, and a hard core of strongly anti-Syrian and pro-Israel sentiment remained, centred in the Lebanese Forces commanded by Fadi Frem.

This was the case until about two months ago, when Jemayel, apparently sensing he was powerful enough to bring the Lebanese Forces into line, replaced Frem with a commander who has shown himself to be much more in step with Jemayel and his Syrian masters.

In Jerusalem, the knell on Israel-Phalange relations was sounded this week by Pierre Yazbeck, the Lebanese Forces permanent representative in Israel.

Speaking to a small audience at the Hebrew University campus on Mount Scopus on Tuesday night, Yazbeck made it plain that he is no longer promoting Israel-Lebanese Christian solidarity in the face of a common Arab – or, more specifically, Syrian enemy – something he had been doing tirelessly for the better

achieving the total withdrawal of all occupying forces from Lebanon.

However, Yazbeck is realistic enough to concede that a Syrian withdrawal is not imminent, and that Syrian domination of Lebanese politics is inevitable for the foreseeable future.

BUT WHAT was anathema to Yazbeck and his fellows just a few short months ago was portrayed on Tuesday night as not so bad after all – certainly the best that can be hoped for in present circumstances.

For, as Yazbeck pointed out, the Christians are emerging as the real winners in the Lebanese domestic political stakes. Syria has indicated that it has no intention of tampering with the political status quo in Lebanon, which will leave the Christians with their power pretty much undiminished.

The Druse, whose fortunes have been on the wane ever since Jemayel finally capitulated to Damascus earlier this year, stand to be the big losers. Their power, Yazbeck argues, derived from Walid Jumblatt's adroitness in playing Israel and Syria against each other. This is

Yazbeck left no room for doubt that the kind of open alliance he had espoused is now a thing of the past

part of the last two years.

While careful not to overdramatize the nadir in his community's relations with Israel – Yazbeck insisted that links of some sort would be maintained, at whatever level feasible – he left no room for doubt that the kind of open alliance he had espoused is now a thing of the past.

The Lebanese Forces, in step with Jemayel and his administration, want to see an end to the "Israeli occupation" – a new term in Yazbeck's vocabulary – as a first step to

something he will not be able to do once Israel withdraws, which is why, Yazbeck claims, Jumblatt is less than cooperative about the talks at Nakoura.

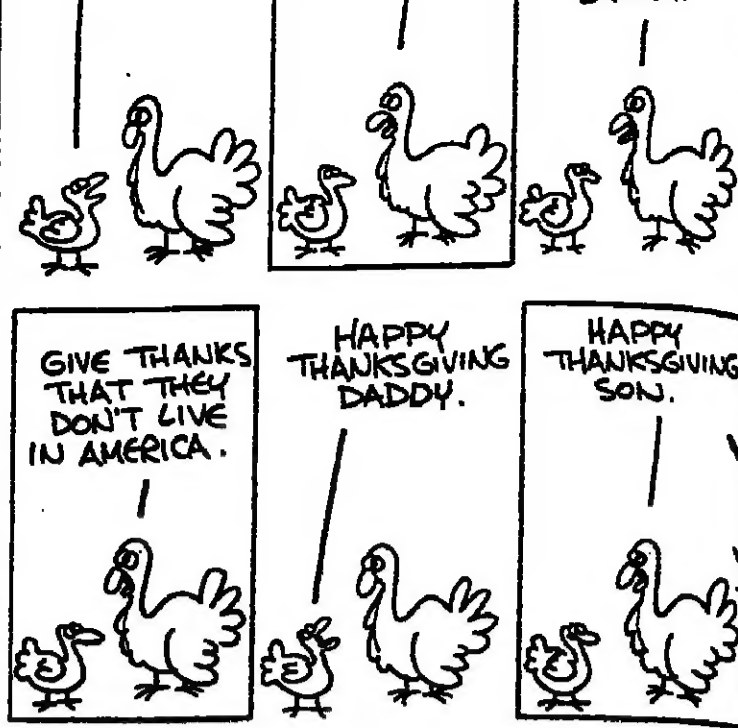
The Shi'as are in a slightly better position, Yazbeck believes, as Syria still has use for them. The Shia Amal is the only local force capable of maintaining relative stability in Southern Lebanon – something Damascus is plainly interested in as part of the deal Yazbeck is convinced the Syrians are trying to strike

Dry Bones

TODAY IS A SPECIAL DAY?

YES SON, A VERY SPECIAL DAY!

TODAY IS THE DAY THAT TURKEYS THE WORLD OVER...



at Israel through their Lebanese "surrogates" at Nakoura.

This deal would involve tacit Syrian assurances for the security of Israel's northern border. Yazbeck believes, in return for tacit Israeli assurances that it will do nothing to threaten Syria's security in the strategic Bekaa Valley.

to everything he had been telling Israeli audiences over the past two years.

For the first time, he spoke without that brow-furrowing sense of special pleading that has been the hallmark of past appearances.

And what he had to say, however unpalatable to anyone who might have hoped for better from the Israel-Christian Lebanese alliance did have a refreshing relevance.

That is not to say that Yazbeck does not have his regrets. He appears sincerely to believe that one point a real chance existed that Israel and the Lebanese Christians could have achieved their political goals in Lebanon, had the situation been handled differently. And who plainly satisfied that Christian interests will be preserved under the Pax Syriaana he now views as a fact of life in Lebanon, he has still not abandoned all hope that his vision of a Lebanon poised in a state of "nerality" between Israel and Syria is one day realized.

But that was all the hope Yazbeck as realistic analyst of the situation his country, was able to offer.

YAZBECK'S presentation stood in somewhat disturbing counterpoint

The writer is The Jerusalem Post Middle East Affairs reporter.

READERS' LETTERS

DUTCH SYMPATHY

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, – You may have noticed that the Dutch Prime Minister, Ruud Lubbers, his Minister for Foreign Affairs, Hans van den Broek, and a delegation of businessmen (including gunsmiths) visited Kuwait recently.

The prime minister said that Israel had to withdraw all its forces from occupied territories behind the 1967 border. This is a clear change in the view of the Dutch government, as Dutch politicians until now were always vague on this matter. Perhaps the prime minister was blinded by oil

and money...

I am very sorry to conclude that Dutch politicians' sympathy for Israel is diminishing. In discussions in the media you can hear that they do not really know what is going on in Israel and the Arab world.

The Dutch government does not have the right to judge in the case of Israel and the Arab world. I never heard the Israeli government make declarations on the placing of nuclear weapons in the Netherlands!

YNSE KALSBECK
Enkhuizen, Netherlands.

RELIGIOUS BEHAVIOUR

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, – Your news article on October 30 describing a National Religious Party proposal to Shas that it press the Likud to create another ministry to satisfy Shas's needs sounds like a continuation of the mad dash for power, so contrary to the humility and religious values that the NRP and Shas on other occasions claim to espouse.

Another ministry? At such a time? Let these parties set an example for true religious behaviour – true sharing of the austerity that will soon be upon us. (Or will they be exempt from it?)

ZOHAR M. GILAD
Jerusalem.

HIGH-TECH INDUSTRY

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, – The prime minister and others have recently made numerous declarations asserting that Israel's future lies in high-tech industries and vowing that no effort will be spared to support and develop such industries.

Can Israel compete in this field? It might be able to, if it put enormous resources into research and development. But research and development depend on a large, highly-trained corps of scientists, engineers and computer programmers and systems analysts. Does Israel have them? Not that I can see.

Nor will a large corps of trained scientists be forthcoming as long as the government cuts the education budgets at all levels, fails to subsidize materials like imported textbooks, and ignores other measures that would enlarge educational opportunities.

The infrastructure of high-tech is a large, highly trained corps of specialists who must be turned out by the educational system. Israel does not seem to be providing the national priority to create such a corps. I believe the words of the professor and the ministers are merely pious hopes; there are no genuine will and substance behind them.

EUGENE VASILEW
Haifa.

HALACHA DEFENDED

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, – In response to the diatribe of Reuven Alberg against the Halacha (Modern Morality and Halacha, November 4), let me begin by stating that the Halacha has undergone change. The Torah, once revealed by God through Moses, was given over to man to interpret, and interpretation varies according to the understanding of the authority of the day.

Alberg has failed to grasp the basic concept of Judaism, which is to preserve morality by means of specific legislation, without which the purpose of the Torah would easily vaporize into vague sentimentality. The history of Christianity, which rejected Halacha, can testify to that.

The position of women in the Halacha, which Alberg decries, must be taken in its context, social as well as legal. Since almost all women in Talmudic times did not receive any education, naturally their testimony could not be relied upon.

However, in civil cases, women's testimony is accepted if agreed upon by the contesting parties.

A token of change in Halachah incidentally, can be found nowadays in the fact that even Orthodox girls receive a formal education. Theoretically, I can foresee that some future Sanhedrin will reinterpret the law dealing with women's testimony and rule that it is valid.

Lastly, the right to interpret Jewish Law was given over only to person both qualified and authorized. Jewish Law is not a common law that can be handled by anyone. Innovative decisions have been made all through the ages, authentic rabbis, but new interpretations of the laws can be made only by a central authority ruling for all Israel. We are currently without such an authority, and must be content until it is restored.

RABBI MENDEL LEWITT
Jerusalem.

MED-DEAD

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, – Your editorial on the Mediterranean-Dead Sea canal (November 14), emphasizes the unfortunate extent to which questions of prestige and politics have obscured factual arguments by both the opponents and defenders of this project.

It is therefore especially unfortunate that you suggest that the \$15

million spent in preparatory work were mis-spent and represent money down the drain. In fact, most of the sum was an essential investment in the research needed to provide basis for any reasoned evaluation of this project and indeed for any major natural resource.

GERALD STANHI
Rehovot.

HAMASHBIR REPLIES

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, – In response to Ms. Zelda Bard's query (November 11) regarding the price differentiation on a pair of Marks & Spencer slacks sold in London and the same slacks sold at Hamashbir Lazarchan in Israel, we would like to point out that on top of the cost price we at Hamashbir have to add the cost of customs and import duties, sales tax, freight handling and insurance from the UK to Israel as well as the special 15 per cent surcharge on imports and 15 per cent VAT.

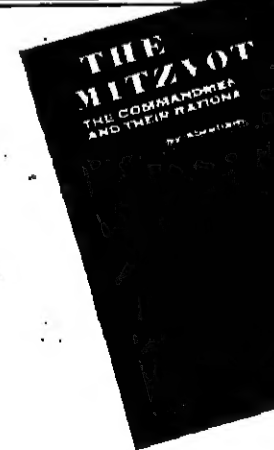
GILL PRIDAN
Company Secretary
Hamashbir Lazarchan
Tel Aviv.

AUTHOR'S QUERY

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, – For a catalogue *raisonné* of the art of Leonid Pasternak, I would appreciate hearing from anyone with correspondence with the artist or his family, unpublished memoirs or photographs, or information about works not registered with a major museum.


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